

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

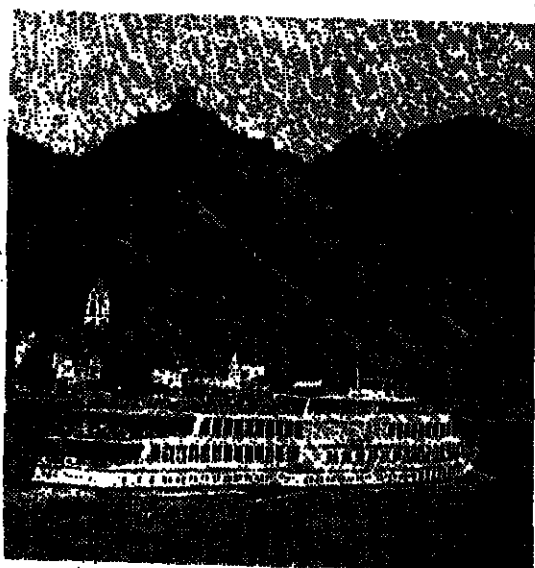
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Happy holidays in the Federal Republic 1972

Hanoi's offensive tests vietnamisation

It was shortly after the 1968 Tet offensive, a campaign that from the military point of view occasioned frightful losses for Hanoi but proved most successful in terms of international affairs.

In New York a Soviet diplomat confronted an American colleague with the question - a pertinent one, too - why the United States had been unable despite its massive military commitment on South Vietnam's behalf to break North Vietnamese fighting strength.

That, the American diplomat is said to have countered, was nothing surprising. "You have Vietnam's Prussians on your side and we have the Bavarians."

This is not to cast aspersions on many a military feat by South Germans but the story nonetheless neatly underlines Hanoi's energy and staying-power.

With its current large-scale offensive on two fronts - in the extreme north and south-west of South Vietnam - Communist North Vietnam has dashed hopes that it might have been induced to slacken its military pace in view of President Nixon's Peking visit and the forthcoming Moscow summit.

The war in Indo-China has been ticking over since February 1971 and the South Vietnamese Laotian campaign. Now it is in full swing again.

Again the intensification of hostilities has not come as a surprise. Six weeks later than expected South Vietnam is

the attacking forces from their strongholds in the vicinity of Kratie in the Mekong bulge, would appear to herald a long, hot summer in Vietnam.

After the intermezzo of so-called Paris peace talks that failed to bring about final victory round the conference table Hanoi seems to have decided in February to rely entirely on its military showing again.

The prospects would appear to be good. The fighting-power of US ground troops still stationed in South Vietnam must be rated negligible and it is most unlikely that President Nixon will be prepared to send out fresh troops to bolster the South Vietnamese.

In the 1968 Presidential election campaign Mr Nixon undertook to reduce US commitments in South Vietnam. He cannot afford to go back on or bend his promise at this stage. It would mean jeopardising what are good prospects of re-election at the end of this year.

Yet Mr Nixon must also ensure that South Vietnam holds its ground at least until the US Presidential elections are over. A serious military setback of any kind for South Vietnam would have grave consequences for the defence concept drawn up and inaugurated with a will by America.

Vietnamisation would not only be called into question; it would be proved out of the question. Military commitments in South Vietnam that have cost the United States 50,000 war dead over a period of ten years would have been to no avail and Hanoi's victory only a matter of time.

North Vietnam's targets amount to more than conquest of the two key Northern provinces of Quang Tri and Thua Thien. The capital of Thua Thien province, the old Imperial city of Hue, it will be remembered, was taken and held for three weeks in the face of counterattacks by the US marines and the South



Herberger honoured

Sepp Herberger, onetime trainer of the national soccer eleven that won the World Cup in 1954 celebrated his 75th birthday in Heidelberg on 28 March. With him were ex-national players Fritz Walter (left) and Helmut Rahn. (Photo: dpa)

Vietnamese 1st Division in February 1968. This time the North Vietnamese are aiming at taking over two provinces for good, followed by several others extending down to Da Nang. Incontrovertible military success of this kind would serve to break the morale of the South Vietnamese troops and render the Thieu administration's prospects of survival slender, to say the least.

Hanoi has no intention of compelling President Thieu to reach a compromise. The current offensive on two fronts is unquestionably designed to bring about his downfall.

The political stage in Saigon is too unstable and the willingness of the Opposition to come to "terms" with the North too pronounced for President Thieu politically to survive the loss of the northern provinces.

General Thieu, like President Nixon before him, has no choice but to succeed. The loss of Quang Tri province cannot be countenanced - not because of the military advantage the North Vietnamese would gain but because of the political and psychological repercussions.

Yet Saigon's plans to retake the province are fraught with danger and the risk of disaster in densely-populated coastal areas.

The next few weeks will show how much fighting-power there is behind the Vietnamisation slogan but in view of the dogged Prussian staying-power of the North, one cannot help recalling the comment by a US major in the Mekong Delta that a town had had to be wiped out in order to be held.

H. Joachim Maitre
(Die Welt, 4 April 1972)

Relations between Bonn and the Arab World gradually return to normal

Relations between this country and the Arab world are slowly but surely returning to normal. Seven years after the original Arab League decision in spring 1965 to break off diplomatic relations with Bonn the League recently gave members a free hand to resume ties as they saw fit.

Within a fortnight of the new ruling Lebanon has taken advantage of the go-ahead and become the first of the countries concerned to re-establish diplomatic relations with this country.

This was only to be expected but the move nonetheless comes as a surprise in two respects, that Lebanon has grasped the initiative in advance of Egypt and that Beirut does not, as had been supposed, appear to intend according to the GDR

full diplomatic recognition at the same time.

Viewed from Bonn it is hard to say what the reasons may have been in detail, but the Lebanese are reputed - and not entirely without foundation - to be smart businessmen who grasp the lie of the land faster than others. And there can be no doubt that the wind is blowing fairly for Bonn at the moment.

Historically this country occupies an intermediate position in the Middle East, a position midway between the Third Reich, which as an arch-enemy of the Jews was the Arabs' natural ally, and the European Community, which has staked its claim in the Mediterranean and the Middle East but is as yet too weak and

politically disunited to look after its interests in practice.

Both this country's past and Europe's future must be the subject of serious discussion between Germans and Arabs. It will then become apparent that there is a good deal more to traditional good ties between the two than Hitler's blood-thirsty anti-Semitism.

It will also be evident that this country, as a leading member of the European Communities, has a role to play in the Middle East just as do Britain, France and Italy with their longer-standing historical ties. Normal diplomatic relations are the sine qua non of a goodwill exchange of this kind, an exchange that can well achieve hard-and-fast results.

The Arabs, Egypt included, ought not to attempt prior to resuming relations to force Bonn to commit itself to more than the repeatedly declared intention of Chancellor Brandt and Foreign Minister Scheel to pursue a balanced policy towards the Middle East.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 April 1972)

experiencing the full-scale Communist attack observers and the Allied supreme command in Saigon had supposed to be on the way in time for the mid-February Tet holiday or President Nixon's Peking visit at the latest.

Hanoi's large-scale troop build-up on the border between Cambodia, Laos and South Vietnam, not to mention the ill-fated attempts by Saigon to dislodge

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Pompidou's referendum is a tactical masterpiece

Almost three years to the day since the referendum that decided General de Gaulle to resign, the French are to go the polls again on 23 April to vote in a referendum that will conclude the post-de Gaulle era and officially herald that of Georges Pompidou.

The object of the referendum, a wholehearted vote in favour of enlargement of the Common Market to include Britain, Ireland, Denmark and Norway, at the same time amounts to a free hand for M. Pompidou in his future policy towards Europe.

Comparing the two referendums, the General's final referendum of 27 April 1969 and M. Pompidou's latest stratagem, in terms of a game of roulette it could be said that General de Gaulle bet his bottom dollar on a single colour, prepared to win or lose all and accept the consequences, which indeed he did.

M. Pompidou, on the other hand, has placed a negligible sum of money on both colours. He cannot lose; he is merely calling the other players' bluffs. The first political opponents to fall out with each other after the initial shock had worn off were the Communists and the Socialists, which was precisely what M. Pompidou had in mind.

It is already clear that a majority of the French electorate will vote in favour of the Ten. According to the latest poll, commissioned by *France-Soir*, 66 per cent already approve and this percentage will probably increase as the government campaign gets off the ground.

What will count as far as the opinion pollsters are concerned (though not for the President himself) is the number of noes and abstentions.

The Communists are to vote "non" in protest against a "little Europe of monopolies" while the Socialists propose to abstain.

One has to hand it to M. Pompidou. The referendum is a tactical masterpiece in terms of both topic and timing. In October he will chair the European summit in Paris and with the referendum having resulted in a vote of confidence in himself and the Common Market M. Pompidou will be unique among the ten heads of government in being able to refer to a mandate given him by an electorate of 29 million people.

The referendum will enable M. Pom-

pidou to lend special emphasis to the French government's views on European integration. Europe, Paris feels, must remain a "European Europe" of nation states with few or weak political institutions and the retention of national identities. At the same time it must compete with America.

What shape Europe as envisaged by France is to take over and above this approach is unclear. There has as yet been no hint as to the forms of political integration M. Pompidou foresees for the next few years.

This is a question that the political parties, in particular the Radical Socialists led by Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, have so far asked in vain. The voters will unquestionably vote in favour of the larger EEC on 23 April, however.

In terms of domestic politics the fruits of the referendum are likely to be even lusher.

The rift is particularly serious for the

Socialists, the Communists having been opposed to the idea of a united Europe for years.

François Mitterrand and his Socialists on the other hand have for years been in favour of a larger European Community but are now forced to call on their supporters to impose a semi-boycott on European integration so as not to play into the hands of the Gaullists, their domestic opponents.

The current situation resembles the state of affairs that materialised in Britain a year ago. The Conservatives have grasped the initiative on Europe and are busy reaping a harvest sown by the Left in the course of long years of idealism.

The most important aspect for M. Pompidou himself, however, who is now nearing the half-way mark of a term of office due to end in 1976, is the turning-point in respect of the Gaullist legacy that has so far overshadowed his every move.

General de Gaulle himself may have made initial approaches to Britain via Christopher Soames, the British ambassador in Paris, but the ten-member Europe including Great Britain is no longer the General's Europe; it is unmistakably that of Georges Pompidou.

Lutz Krusche

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 29 March 1972)

Paris Vietnam talks remain icy

What is the point of the Paris Vietnam talks? William Porter, chief US delegate at the Paris monologues, asked himself this question before he and his delegation withdrew from the 147th fruitless session.

Like Henry Cabot Lodge and Averell Harriman before him Mr Porter is increasingly depressed by the intransigence of the other side.

The talks have indeed achieved no constructive results whatsoever apart from reaching agreement three years ago - after weeks of argument - about the form they were to take.

Washington has again allowed the Paris talks to reach deadlock, confirming the validity of President Nixon's decision to press ahead with the troop withdrawals regardless of what happens at the conference table.

From time to time, incidentally, the Americans seem determined - and rightly so - to illustrate the juncture at which the two sides part company and render the talks paradoxical.

The Communists have increasingly elevated the principle of non-negotiation to

the main criterion of their conduct of the conference. Either that or they aim at taking all and conceding nothing.

Mr Porter's decision to adjourn the talks is, last but not least, an expression of disappointment. Washington had evidently hoped that in the wake of President Nixon's Peking visit there would at least be a little movement in the trench warfare round the conference table.

Claims that Chinese Premier Chou En-lai paid Hanoi a visit immediately after Mr Nixon's Peking trip have, when all is said and done, not been denied, but attendant hopes have yet to be fulfilled. It remains to be seen whether Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, the chief Vietnamese delegate, will return from Hanoi with a fresh briefing that might serve to thaw the icy atmosphere of the talks a little.

If this proves not to be the case adjournments may come to be the rule. Abandonment of the talks altogether will then no longer be a distant prospect. And this could be neither in China's nor in Russia's interest.

Wolfgang Nordmann

(Bremer Nachrichten, 27 March 1972)

Mintoff almost gains his ends for Malta

Into the hands of neither the Arabs nor the Soviet Union.

Britain is to increase its annual payments in return for use of Malta's military facilities from £4.8 to £14 million and, individual Nato countries are to contribute a further £10 million in bilateral economic aid in the course of the agreement's lifetime.

There is little point in arguing whether or not the price is too high. After all, what yardsticks are to be taken? Mr Mintoff's government has rightly pointed out time and time again that Britain pays Cyprus and America Spain far more than Malta has ever received in return for the use of military facilities.

After 170 years in the service of the British Empire, Mr Mintoff complains, an attempt is being made to fob off Malta with a pittance.

The Maltese Premier has certainly succeeded in changing this state of affairs. He fought for every extra million and on his return was feted by his fellow-countrymen.

It remains to be seen whether his socialist economic strategy will prove a success. After centuries of economic dependence on foreign powers he hopes to be able to put the newly-negotiated millions to such effective use that Malta will be able to stand on its own two feet economically when the present agreement expires and never again be dependent on selling its military facilities to foreign powers.

The West ought to be only too happy if Mr Mintoff pulls it off and succeeds in creating what he envisages as an island of peace in the middle of the Mediterranean. Let the citadel of the Knights of St John be at the disposal of tourists rather than soldiers.

Western Europe can certainly not object to the idea. It would be only too happy to see Malta neutral and merely a holidaymakers' paradise.

Dieter Stadach

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 28 March 1972)

Britain imposes direct rule on Northern Ireland

The suspension of Stormont by the British Government is an inevitable consequence of the crisis that has resulted from the deadlock of talks between Mr Heath and Mr Faulkner.

The Northern Ireland Premier has proved unwilling to hand over a facet of Stormont's powers, the core of law and order and more specifically the police force. Whitehall had no native but to take the bull by the horns and assume full responsibility for the area as is already done for Scotland and Wales.

The take-over, for an initial period of twelve months, will, on the face of it, bring about few changes in the administration of the province.

A British Minister directly responsible to the Whitehall Cabinet will take the powers exercised for the past 51 years by the Northern Irish Premier and Stormont parliament.

He will be assisted by an advisory committee on which representatives of Northern Irish groups willing to operate will sit.

Were the Social Democratic and Labour Party as the main Opposition group representing the Roman Catholics prepared to abandon its boycott of the some progress towards surmounting present political stagnation would have been achieved.

Mr Lynch, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Ireland, has reacted in Dublin by talking in terms of a step forward. This is certainly true of the support to the British government by Mr Heath and the Labour Opposition in Westminster.

This is not, of course, to say that parties concerned are much nearer solution of the Northern Ireland problem. The IRA intends to carry on its armed and Protestant extremists may well do suit. There is certainly a grave danger they might.

The problem remains unsolved, that of reconciling the desire of the Protestant majority to remain linked to Britain and that of the Roman Catholic minority to bring about the reunification of Ireland without forgoing the benefits accruing from ties with London.

Mr Heath's move might help to clear the air in Northern Ireland, create a climate of hope and convince Irish people capable of moderation, if there are any, that bomb-throwing and extremism is not the answer.

A slight political step forward in bringing about progress in tolerant co-existence.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 March 1972)

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

Britain and West Germany meet for discussions on the Rhine

DIE ZEIT

One guest from Britain said that the Königswinter Conference could be a national and emotional occasion. The pretty little Rhineland town was the scene of the 22nd Anglo-German meeting with which it has become synonymous and there was no doubting the atmosphere of the occasion.

In fact there was very little in the way of emotion, but rationality was greatly in demand. This was because of the themes that were chosen for this year's meeting: the fate of the Treaties of Moscow and Warsaw and the prospects for the European Economic Community when Great Britain joins it along with the other three applicants, Denmark, Norway and Southern Ireland.

In the pauses between the discussions and on the evenings that were warm and balmy for March the atmosphere was typical of a Königswinter Conference that is not always so rational in its atmosphere.

There are probably few other conferences in which the little peripheral informal meetings are so vital for the understanding between one nation and another and where so many personal contacts can be made as at this Anglo-German meeting.

As usual there were many political VIPs from both sides of the Channel. Former Labour Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart and Under Secretary of State at the Foreign Office Anthony Kershaw were there from Britain. EEC Commissioner Ralf Dahrendorf from Brussels and Cabinet Secretary Christopher Layton were represented. The President of the European Parliament Walter Berendt made a working visit and a number of well-known members of the Bundestag and Commons were there to add political weight to the occasion.

Last year the discussions in Königswinter had resembled a debate in the Commons since the main item of interest among the British visitors was their country's application for membership of the European Economic Community.

A slight political step forward in bringing about progress in tolerant co-existence.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 March 1972)

Chancellor Brandt has said that no account will be taken of premature elections before the decision is taken on whether or not the Warsaw and Moscow Treaties are to be ratified and even then only as a last resort.

Speaking on television Willy Brandt said: "It is extremely difficult to arrange elections (ahead of schedule), especially if the Opposition does not want them."

He signed that he was resolved to carry on to the end of this legislative period with a small majority. He feels that the decision on ratification will be taken on 4 May in the Bundestag.

Brandt said that he felt Basic Law was not designed to allow for premature elections and the CDU/CSU was not in favour of going to the polls at the moment "for reasons of their own".

Nevertheless the Chancellor did not rule out the possibility that elections would be held before autumn 1973, adding: "It is a difficult matter and not something I am prepared to contemplate before the decision on the Treaties has been taken."

This year the occasion more closely resembled a typical day in the Bundestag with the approximately 150 participants, politicians, scientists, economists and journalists debating matters of interest to West Germany.

The debates about the future of the Treaty of Moscow and Treaty of Warsaw rubbed off on this international gathering and when the event was over it was the Social Democrat politicians who returned to Bonn with the feeling that their policies had received the backing of the Königswinter Conference.

British politicians, no matter from which side of the floor they came, left no doubts in anyone's mind that they feared the consequences if the Treaties were not ratified.

But although it was interesting to know how the British representatives felt about the Bonn Ostpolitik it was at least as interesting to hear the ideas put forward by the British on the future development of the Common Market.

Since the last Königswinter Conference the British have signed the Treaty of Accession. So the suggestions they had to make in Königswinter were not, as in previous years, interesting comments from the sidelines by an impartial observer, and Utopian schemes. What was now suggested by the British stood a good chance of becoming a European reality.

And the British made it quite clear in Königswinter that they will feel it their duty, as an EEC member to think carefully about the future of a ten-strong Europe, but not to exert excessive pressure to get their own way. But at the same time they left no doubt in anyone's mind that they would exercise with care their right to have a say in the shaping of the future of the Community.

The most far-reaching reform proposals put forward in Königswinter concerned the European Parliament. It is self-evident that the English are most qualified to speak on this subject since London has the Mother of all Parliaments.

The British seem to be more disturbed than any of the present six members of the Common Market by the "lack of democracy" in the Community.

One German participant in the con-

Brandt will only call an election as a last resort

The Chancellor was asked how he intended to avoid giving the impression that the Bonn government was being put under pressure by the Soviet Union with regard to the ratification of the Treaties.

He replied: "The Soviet Union has its opinions and presses home its ideas in its own fashion which is not ours. No grown-up person should be astounded by this."

The Chancellor said that he did not put what was being said in the Soviet Union under a microscope. He felt that West Germany's allies in the West were also worried that the Treaties would be thrown out, "but they won't," he added.

Brandt gave assurances that he did not feel he was being forced into a corner. He admitted that the past few weeks had been confused; "but nothing has changed



Lilo Milchack

(Photo: Privat)

ference said: "No secret Cabinet meeting in Europe is ever so secret as an open meeting of the European Parliament."

This unsatisfactory state of affairs could probably be swept aside by the suggestion made by a former British Minister. He proposed that the Parliament should be upgraded by direct election of its members.

Under his scheme thirty British MPs would be elected at the general European Parliament elections and would have a seat both in the Commons and the European Parliament. The other six British members of the European Parliament should come from the Lords.

Despite all concern the British feel that democratic controls should be improved before the Community bodies can be upgraded. We should not expect in the near future an upgrading of the European executives responsible for the Common Market's foreign and defence policies.

The British representatives at Königswinter also proved that they are capable of carrying out extraordinary moves. They proved this by conferring a high honour on the initiator of the Anglo-German talks in the Rhineland town, Lilo Milchack.

On behalf of Queen Elizabeth II the British Ambassador to West Germany Sir Roger Jackling named Lilo Milchack Honorary Dame Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George, the first foreign woman to receive this distinction.

Dieter Buhl

(Die Zeit, 24 March 1972)

No NPD at Baden-Württemberg election campaign

Right-wing radicals, the National Democratic Party (NPD) have thrown in the towel. They have withdrawn from the Baden-Württemberg provincial assembly elections, knowing that they stand to gain nothing from them.

This is a surprising step and it obviously means that the NPD are well aware they will not obtain the five per cent of total votes cast required to get them into the Baden-Württemberg provincial assembly and have accordingly decided to save their time and money.

Nevertheless the right-wingers have announced their decision in high-falutin terms. But the reasons they give for not competing in these elections should not go without contradiction. For they are dishonourable and calculated to poison the already electric atmosphere.

There is indeed a lot at stake in Baden-Württemberg on 23 April. It is not simply a question of electing the next provincial parliament and the future Baden-Württemberg government.

The votes cast by the people of Baden and Württemberg will go a long way towards expressing the opinions held down in South-West Germany about the Bonn government and its policies.

In fact the electorate down Stuttgart way know that in the history of the Federal Republic there has never been so much to play for in a provincial assembly election. So they could well do without the suggestions being put forward by a bankrupt party that was given the order of the boot in Baden-Württemberg in 1969.

The CDU must be particularly displeased at the covering fire they are being given by the NPD. But they know as well as the Social Democrats and Free Democrats do that the votes formerly cast for an abortive ultra-right splinter group are evenly distributed over all major parties.

This, however, is not the decisive point. The crux is that no one in the Federal Republic can even pretend that there might be a party in this country that relied on support from radicals.

And this is not an occasion for the Social Democrats and the Free Democrats to rejoice in the misfortune of their opponents. They must not use the NPD's embarrassing move to their own advantage or it could turn out to be more than a political event on the periphery.

If the SPD and FDP seek to gain an advantage from the NPD's foul tactics there will only be one party sitting back rubbing their hands with gleeful Schadenfreude.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 March 1972)

Neck and neck

Forty-three per cent of the electorate in the Federal Republic are in favour of premature elections being held, according to a random survey conducted by the Wickert Institute in Illerichen. Forty-four per cent are against the government "going to the country". Thirteen per cent were undecided.

And if it comes to an election? The survey found that 49 per cent would give their vote to the CDU/CSU, 45 per cent would vote SPD, four per cent would back the FDP and two per cent "other parties".

(Nordwest Zeitung, 11 March 1972)

GOVERNMENT

Hildegard Bartels appointed new head of Statistics Bureau

Anything but statistics," swore Hildegard Bartels after becoming a doctor of economics and finding a job at the Ministry of Economic Affairs in 1944. She had dealt with statistics for five years as an assistant lecturer in financial science, economic theory and policy at the University of Berlin.

But her vow was premature. Hildegard Bartels joined the Hesse State Statistics Bureau in Wiesbaden in 1946. "It was difficult for a woman to find a suitable post in those days," she explains.

But she stayed at the Bureau, working on the housing census, compiling statistics on finance and helping to coordinate statistics in the American Zone States Council.

She stayed there when the statistics bureau in the three occupation zones merged to form the Federal Statistics Bureau. She remained in touch with international organisations from the very beginning and helped the so-called overall economic balances achieve their present-day importance in economic, finance and social services policy.

Minister of the Interior Hans-Dietrich Genscher appointed her the new president of the Federal Statistics Bureau 26 years after she had broken her pledge never to have anything to do with statistics again.

Hildegard Bartels is the first woman president of this Federal bureau whose importance is constantly growing as planning spreads but whose role is little known to the public. The minor sensation of a woman being appointed to a post where she is also responsible for organising the Bundestag elections has done little to draw public attention to the bureau.

But this is how things should be, she believes. Hildegard Bartels is the most senior West German civil servant and is in charge of 2,600 staff. "A woman has a more difficult time of it," she states but otherwise she hates talk of emancipation

for the very reason that she is emancipated.

She overcame this "problem" at the official ceremony to mark her appointment by drily thanking Minister Genscher: "I am of course particularly grateful that you have taken equal opportunity seriously."

The staff appreciate and respect her quick mind, expertise and hard work. But she would be unable to implement her plans were it not for her self-confidence and her belief that commonsense will triumph. Important decisions are to be made in the green skyscraper on the Gustav Stresemann Ring one hundred years after the Imperial Statistics Office was established.

Some of her worries are common to all public authorities. The number of staff at the Statistics Bureau has increased only minimally in recent years. The money provided for its work has occasionally been reduced along with other cuts in the budget. It is hard to find new people with the right qualifications because of the better wages paid by industry. Work has increased by 75 per cent.

The limit to the Bureau's efficiency seems to have been reached. The tasks allotted to it by the law need pruning. There is general agreement about this but, as so often, every department thinks that other people should make the start. The Bureau has its hands tied as its work is set out by the law.

Another problem is the reliability of the statistics. Wiesbaden outlines the methods to be used in the surveys but they are normally carried out by the Federal state bureau that can be encouraged to work faster by the national bureau but cannot be forced.

Paradoxically enough, the switch to computers has led to new delays. The Federal states send their material to computer centres to be processed but they often have to take a place at the end of the queue as there is other work to be

done such as working out salaries. The advantages of regional work is slowly being outweighed by the disadvantages. Describing everything that is recorded statistically would fill a large volume. The Federal Statistics Bureau covers 23 main spheres with 115 sub-departments.

An estimated one and a half to two milliard statistics are issued every month in publications or at the request of industry or economic or scientific institutes.

A total of 1,361 million Marks were spent on statistics between 1950 and 1965. Thirty-three large-scale surveys were conducted between 1968 and 1972 as well as the spot-checks that are always carried out.

But gaps are constantly discovered and regretted by politicians who want to and have to deal with new problems. There is a shortage of statistics on conservation. Additional information is needed for town and country planning, transport and infrastructure. Educational policy needs data on courses of education and further training.

Hildegard Bartels' chief interest lies in improving the methods used for surveying the wealth and incomes situation. But she also wants the statistics to be seen and processed in their entirety.

The man on the street sees little sense in having statistics. His mistrust is shown in the favourite expression: "You can prove anything with statistics." Constant repetition does not make this any truer.

The man on the street also fears an intrusion on his privacy. The introduction of a personal code number, the establishment of a statistical data bank planned since 1969 and the reform of the registration of data from registry offices, the police, legal authorities, financial bodies and labour exchanges so that it can be fed into computers all seem to be the beginnings of a future that will be totally ordered by the authorities.

The main task facing the Statistics Bureau will probably be to overcome the fears of people who do not understand statistics and their purpose and to show them that the implementation of policies entails more and more planning and that planning is impossible without statistical information. This also applies more and more to the international sphere and not just to national policy.

Horst Bieher
(Die Zeit, 17 March 1972)

Margarete Hütter takes over embassy in San Salvador



bassy in Washington and the consulate-general in New Orleans.

Margarete Hütter has one important advantage over her colleagues at the Foreign Office from the State Secretaries downwards to the messenger boys - her almost unique intimate knowledge of the department. She was a member of the

foreign service before people in West Germany ever thought there would be a Foreign Office again.

Margarete Hütter lost her husband during the Second World War. He was listed as missing on the Eastern front in 1944. She joined the Liberals in Stuttgart when working as an interpreter to Colonel W. Dawson of the American military government of Württemberg-Baden as it then was.

In 1947 she switched to the German Bureau for Peace Issues, the predecessor of the Foreign Ministry based in Stuttgart and a source of suspicion to the Allies.

Margarete Hütter was a candidate for the DVP, the Swabian equivalent of the Liberal Free Democrats, in the elections to the first Bundestag in 1949. She did not meet with success at first. It was only when party leader Theodor Heuss was elected the first president of the Federal Republic that she took his place in the Bundestag and at once made history.

The election of the chancellor stood on the agenda on 15 September 1949 as soon as she arrived in Bonn. The proceedings were almost over when she objected to Dr Erich Köhler, then the president of the Bundestag, that she had been overlooked. The administration had

Police fight crime with the aid of a computer

West German police will from next year onwards be aided in their fight against crime by a computer to be installed in Wiesbaden and to be in touch with all the police forces operating in the various Federal states.

The computer centre will help keeping track of persons wanted by police and offences concerning vehicles. Horst Herold, head of the Federal Republic crime division in Bonn said by 1973 investigations involving cars and private property will be conducted electronically.

By 1975 it is hoped that data on wrongdoers and the crimes they committed will be fed into the computer and be available to investigating police.

The third stage of police development will involve supplying all data on crimes into the computer, thus making life more difficult for petty thieves and gangsters.

According to a statement made by conference of Interior Ministers of the Federal states it is proposed to set up data processing centres. Ultimately hoped to have between 400 and 500 operation, these will employ 60 per cent of the total personnel of 24,000.

It will be possible for police to work in the various states to obtain information on vehicles, persons and actual crimes in about nine states according to a statement made by Herold. It is hoped that the computer be able to answer eight queries second when it is fully in operation.

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 10 March 1972)

White Paper

The government's Federal Security Bureau has approved the publication of a White Paper on civil defence suggested by Wolfgang Dorn, the Parliamentary State Secretary in the Ministry of the Interior.

In this, the first White Paper on a defence the government will take stock everything being done in this sphere will set out future plans for civil defence new role. (Nordwest Zeitung, 14 March 1972)

forgotten to include her in the list Theodor Heuss' successor. Margarete Hütter voted out of turn and Konrad Adenauer became the first West German Chancellor by one vote.

After Adenauer admitted to voting himself as he was determined to become Chancellor, Free Democrat Margarete Hütter also revealed that she had voted for the Christian Democratic leader.

Margarete Hütter belonged to the second Bundestag from 1955 to 1960 before finally moving to the diplomatic service. Again she only managed to enter the Bundestag after the highly respected and farsighted FDP foreign affairs specialist Karl Georg Pfeleiderer gave up his seat to go to Belgrade as ambassador to Yugoslavia.

With her liberal upbringing and her experience as a correspondent in Bonn Margarete Hütter was resolute enough even during the beginnings of post-war policy, to have her own way in fact the frequently patriarchal-style leadership of her party leaders, Reinhold Maier and Theodor Heuss.

Margarete Hütter knows the formation of the administration and the subtleties of "court" behaviour which she studied in the Foreign Office's department protocol. The conditions for a successful end to her diplomatic career are that she ignore food and drink as she will not be able to face further work without having inhaled smoke into his lungs.

Eghard Möhring

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 March 1972)

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Works Doctor Centre in Cologne proves its worth

The 1970 government report on accidents and accident prevention reveals that there were 2,670,000 accidents and cases of industrial disease that year with 6,282 proving fatal. The State accident insurance schemes had to pay out 5,400 million Marks.

In view of these facts the government has drawn up a Bill intended to improve safety at a person's place of work through the employment of works doctors and other specialists. The Bill has now been submitted to the Bundestag.

The law is meant to regulate the activities of a works doctor whose most important duties are prevention and supervision as well as carrying out first aid. Little examination has been made of the most efficient forms that a works medical service can take. Many firms have not accepted the need for a medical service and do not realise that the money they spent on this would lead to savings of even greater sums.

A works doctor scheme has been tested in Cologne for the past five years. The people responsible for the Works Doctor

Centre find that it is a good and perhaps the best way to provide medical care for firms employing up to two thousand workers.

The Cologne Works Doctor Centre was set up by eight metal-processing firms in the suburb of Ehrenfeld in June 1966 at the instigation of the Metal Industry Employers Association.

Its purpose was to regulate and control the medical conditions arising from a firm's specific requirements, to advise the directors and workers council on all questions involved with medicine and to provide medical attention for staff during and for working hours.

Four people, including two works doctors, are currently responsible under the scheme for seventeen concerns with a total of 4,200 employees. Another works doctor, this time a female, is to be appointed during the course of the year.

The Centre's programme includes medical examinations for new employees, working position analyses, rehabilitation, preventive examinations, the organisation of work rooms, work installations and work places, accident prevention, first aid and an advice service.

The works doctor service has been discussed for a number of years. The Common Market countries were recommended to order a compulsory works doctor service in 1962.

But it is only now that Labour Minister Walter Arendt has drawn up a Bill improving accident prevention by increasing the number of works doctors and safety technicians - 26 years after the first regulations of this type came into force in France and fourteen years after their introduction in the Netherlands.

Hans Katzer, then himself Minister of Labour, issued guidelines for the establishment of a works doctor service in 1966 but he was not very successful.

The introduction of labour medicine as a separate discipline at universities was rejected in 1968. Graduates of medicine could only learn about this field at further study courses arranged by the Academies of Labour Medicine in Berlin and Munich and at a seminar in Bochum.

It is only recently that a chair of labour medicine has been set up at the University of Erlangen. Few technical universities in the Federal Republic have a chair of safety technology.

The initiative has almost always been left to the employers in the past. A number of firms such as Hoechst chemi-

cals and BASF have had works doctors for over a hundred years.

A century ago Dr Grandhomme, the doctor employed at the Hoechst works, felt that his most important duty was preventing illness and not curing it. Other firms still fear today the extra expenditure involved and do not realise what savings expert medical care can lead to.

Ford of West Germany has now tried to gain some systematic record of the recognisable economic effects of a works doctor service and has come to the conclusion that it pays for itself. The Ford works were able to save costs of at least 2.82 million Marks in one year because of the works doctor service.

One example may suffice for how the works doctor service can prove economic. The works doctor at Fords ordered 256 employees to change their job within the firm on a permanent basis and 701 temporarily.

Ability was therefore taken into account when considering the demands of a particular working process. The doctor thus prevented the loss of production caused by an employee falling sick.

The firm would have faced costs of 370 Marks per person for a sickness period lasting three weeks. When it is considered that a three-week sickness period was avoided in one case in six it will be seen that the firm saved 58,830 Marks.

This economic aspect will probably lead most firms to set up a works doctor service though Dr Josef Rainer of the Cologne Works Doctor Centre points more to the ethical side.

"A works doctor service for all employees is not an additional social service run by the employers that can be

improved or run down according to the state of the economy," he states. "It is an extremely ethical as well as an economic obligation for all people responsible for the common good. To a certain degree it forms the nucleus of the employers' obligation to cater for their workers' welfare."

But the current situation in the Federal Republic is not exactly favourable to the introduction of a general works doctor service. Dr Rainer claims that there is a shortage of about fifteen thousand works doctors.

It took two years to find a works doctor in Cologne. An insurance company has been looking for a works doctor for the past eighteen months and is offering a minimum salary of 65,000 Marks a year.

Dr Rainer states that three minimum demands must be met to improve the works doctor service in the Federal Republic. Every university should have a chair of labour medicine so that more works doctors can be trained. Pay must be improved and the employers must take the initiative.

Maria Feiderscheidt

(Handelsblatt, 22 March 1972)

Works council elections standardised

The workers now have their say. Between 1 March and 31 May they will be able to elect their works councils on a standardised basis under the new law governing industrial relations.

A series of regulations making election easier are more important than the standardised election dates. Worker councils were elected in only about forty per cent of the firms where this was possible in the past. Workers at other firms had to get by without any elected representatives for a number of reasons.

An electoral committee can now be formed if demanded by three employees or a trade union represented in the firm. The court of labour will back their claims if necessary.

The Ministry of Labour estimates that worker councils will be elected at 60 to 75 per cent of the firms covered by this ruling before the end of the year.

The new law governing industrial relations was opposed tooth and nail by the Opposition in the Bundestag and the Bundesrat and a number of industrialists right up until the time it was passed.

Compared with the 1952 law governing industrial relations, it offers the individual worker and the representatives he elects a considerable increase in their rights of participation in decision-making.

The election preparations have run into difficulties in some firms as a result. White-collar workers have been declared executives in some cases - this category of employee cannot be elected and neither can they vote.

Unfortunately the definition of an executive is as obscure in the new law governing industrial regulations as in the old one. Only the election committee appointed can decide whether the person in question is an employee with the right of suffrage or an executive without this right.

A second, no less serious problem has also arisen. A large number of groups of various persuasion are trying to turn the works council elections into political elections.

What is more, the Christian Democrats are trying to influence the worker council elections for the first time since the war through the financial and ideological support of the social committees of the Christian Democrat employee association.

Social Democrat groups have therefore clearly outlined their position, stressing their differences with both the extreme left and the right-wing groups.

Horst Berger

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 26 March 1972)

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■ COMMON MARKET

Sicco Mansholt takes over as new Commission President

The nomination of Dutch socialist Sicco Mansholt as the new President of the European Commission could be a sign of things to come, even though it resulted from a need to remove an embarrassment. Following the premature termination of the Italian Franco Malfatti's term of office there is now just a time lag of nine months to be filled. For on 1 January 1973, according to an old agreement of the EEC governments a Frenchman will then become President of the Community Commission, a Community at that time comprising ten States.

In his thirteen years of membership of the EEC Commission Sicco Mansholt has never lost sight of the aim of forming a Western European federated State and he has at all times attempted to defend the "supranational claims" of the Commission to be the nucleus of a European federal government.

This man, who was instrumental in the creation of the EEC agricultural market and thus knitted the divergent member States into a unit prepared to tread the path towards an economic and monetary union (EMU) and hence to a political union, today stands in a position that ideologically speaking is in conflict with the governments of nearly all EEC States.

"Cooperation of States", the Gaullian ideology, has found a place in the plans and schemes of all the important statesmen of Western Europe, while the force of circumstances which Mansholt has helped to create calls for progressive integration, since cooperation is no longer sufficient to satisfy the needs of the semi-finished Community.

Sicco Mansholt's stopgap presidency should not tear open the old wounds caused by the battle for the "right European ideology".

The majority of Mansholt's eight colleagues on the European Commission, it is to be hoped, will prevent him destroying possible progress by all too visionary moves. The nine months in which Sicco Mansholt represents the EEC executive will be crucial, however. They are months in which the way ahead will be decided.

The proposed summit conference of the ten heads of government of the extended Common Market is at present being prepared for. The Social Democrat governments of Denmark and Norway are engaged in a bitter battle against leftist opponents of entry into the EEC.

This immature Europe of just six countries which is mainly orientated towards economic integration, prosperity and the maximum of profits from industry will, it is hoped, take on a new quality when the four new members from northern Europe join.

The European individual and the things he wishes to see implemented have so far been paid only lip service and have in reality been utilised as a means to an end, the end being an impressive growth rate. The situation with regard to foreign workers is a typical example of this.

Now by pure chance the European Commission has got itself an interim president who is a socialist, giving it an image that could lead it along new paths and win over the enthusiastic youth of all Western European countries for the cause of integration — too late and for too brief a period!

In a letter to his predecessor Franco

EEC steers towards joint economic line

Things can only get better. Recently the Economic Affairs Ministers of the six EEC States officially passed the recommendations they had drawn up for closer cooperation on economics and currency policies within the European Economic Community.

So once again the Six are pressing on along the road to an economic and monetary union (EMU). Before the seventies are out Europeans should have a unified economic policy, a unified currency and a common market in which there are no customs barriers.

But the Ministers also debated the guidelines for policies towards industry and the economy over the shorter term — for 1972 in fact. Once again it was clearly seen how difficult it can be to coordinate economic affairs policies.

The European Commission worked out economic policy recommendations for the Federal Republic which obviously did not take account of the latest developments in West Germany.

At any rate this country's Economic Affairs Minister Professor Karl Schiller warned that the upward trend that had been triggered off quite spontaneously in the Federal Republic's economy should not be underestimated, and since policy

consumption, the preservation of the environment and the protection of reserves of vital raw materials higher than economic growth and prosperity in its list of priorities.

But a Western Europe of this kind is a futuristic vision. Not one of the ten governments taking part in the conference in October which will set the points for the next two or three years cherishes ideas of this kind.

Mansholt's dilemma is identical with the EEC dilemma — they are tied to a zeitgeist that limps along decades behind the facts and the necessities of the politics of Western Europe are to be kept within the bounds of the possible.

What is possible is undoubtedly much closer to the established facts than to the visions of the future cherished by left-wing students and the President of the Commission for the next nine months.

It is up to Sicco Mansholt to prove that this futuristic vision of a progressive Europe can by small, easy stages be brought within the realms of possibility. Malfatti Mansholt recently drew the picture of a new Western Europe which would place the cultural development of mankind, the renunciation of superfluous.

Erich Hauser

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 23 March 1972)

Proposals for an EEC political secretariat in the air

Hannoversche Allgemeine

EEC countries and the four applicant Great Britain, Denmark, Norway and Ireland will get together in Brussels on 1 March to draw up the basic requirements for a joint attitude towards the United States, the Soviet Union and the Third World developing countries.

This is the aim of the second conference of Foreign Ministers, which is designed to pave the way for the meeting of the ten heads of government in October.

But this latest meeting of the Foreign Ministers will not in itself set any definitive agreements. It is expected that it will decide to set up a working group.

Political circles consider it possible in this context the suggestion of forming a political secretariat of the Ten will be broached for the first time. But the more we hear about this project the clearer see the minor political significance would have.

The Federal Republic and France and other European partners have obvious come into line with the French ideal of community foreign policy that does limit room for manoeuvre on a national plane.

If this political secretariat takes form that seems to be on the cards present it will be precisely that — a secretariat. Its main significance is that it could prove to be the embryonic form of something much more important — the EEC Ten one day show the necessity of political will.

But this uncertain prospect of a possible future development alone is enough to unleash conflict. The French government wants the secretariat to be based in Paris, but the other five members — presumably the applicants too — are opposed to this idea.

This latest brainchild of the EEC intended to consist of diplomats and a Chairman of the Council of Ministers the time and would operate as an auxiliary diplomatic body.

But the officials in this body would hold any right of recommendation or regard to foreign policy. No draft policy would emerge from the political secretariat. So the new body could not be compared with a general management of the EEC Commission, nor with a planning staff and certainly not with a department of a foreign ministry.

The political secretariat would be mainly concerned with summing up the results of each conference of foreign ministers — which is still prepared by the politically based Davignon Committee — and would prepare a report for the President of the Council of Ministers for the next meeting which would throw light on the points where agreement had been reached and also highlight differences of opinion.

The secretariat would be in permanent touch with the EEC Commission, and many foreign-policy problems, such as the attitude towards the United States and the Soviet Union depend on the trade and economic policies of the Commission for which the EEC Commission is responsible.

Devotees of the idea of a joint foreign policy in the Western European economic community are, however, hoping that at least in this way the EEC Commission can be brought in on the political work of the Community and form a bridge between the economic and foreign policy sectors.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 March 1972)

■ AROUND THE FAIRS
International babywear fair at Cologne

Fashion's the favourite for the modern Mum and her up-to-date youngsters. Fashion-consciousness actually begins when the baby kicks off his first baby shoes for something bigger. This is the tenor of an official report drawn up by the makers of clothes for mother and baby before the international fair in Cologne aimed at this sector of the consumer community.

A marketing expert from this branch commented on this claim with a remark that may be truer: "It is not the baby that feels better at being doped up in fashionable clothes — just the mother."

After all it is the mother who decided what the child will wear. This still applies though the modern child is more emancipated and generally has a say in what he or she will wear, which is the way it should be.

But how far is the fashion-consciousness of a child affected by environment? Is it not just an offshoot of the mother's fashion tastes that she has passed on consciously or otherwise? A symposium held in Cologne came to the conclusion that marketing and advertisers should aim at mother and child equally.

West German mothers were divided into three basic categories, though hybrids are possible.

1) The narcissistic type: She views her child as a part of her own person capable of increasing her prestige and spoils it correspondingly. This is the kind of mother who lays the greatest emphasis on the latest fashions for herself and her offspring.

2) The realistic and practical type: She knows exactly what her child needs and intends to educate it to be self-sufficient. This type of mother is best won over with styles that are practical and comfortable for a child.

3) The indifferent or undecided mother: She has no fixed ideas about what is best for baby. She hovers between spoiling the baby and ruling with a rod of iron.



A 'boutique for babies' that has recently been opened in Hamburg

(Photo: Conti-Press)

Consequently when shopping for baby-clothes she is never sure whether they should be fashionable or practical and comfortable. According to the experts this is the largest group and thus marketing policy should be aimed at helping this type of mother out of her dilemma.

The mother-and-baby fashions industry is keen to take great care of its customers for the simple reason that they are a dwindling force. The process is slow but noticeable. One hundred years ago 34 per cent of the population was under fourteen. Today it is only 23 per cent. Last year 790,000 babies were born in the Federal Republic. This was 20,000 less than in the previous year.

Perhaps the most important figure is this, however: In 1980 it is estimated that there will only be 13,200,000 children under fourteen. At present there are fourteen million.

There are fewer babies than in the past probably thanks to the Pill. But for precisely this reason a higher percentage of the babies born are actually wanted and not surprise visitors. Parents who plan for children are obviously prepared to dig deeper in their pockets than those who have a new baby sprung on them.

Demand for clothes for bigger children is also on the increase. The total amount spent on clothes in all age groups in the Federal Republic is between twenty and

25 milliard Marks every year. In 1971 the amount spent on children's clothing was three milliard Marks. This was 600 million Marks more than two years previously.

Experts in this sector reckon that about ten per cent of the money spent in the retail clothing trade goes on toys for toddlers. Other figures show that children are being treated more than before and more than their parents. Turnover in shops specialising in children's clothing was up by ten per cent last year as against the 1970 figure. But in the same period the increase in turnover in the retail clothing trade as a whole was only eight per cent.

The sun should be shining on the baby market for a long time to come and not just in the short term. Experts are already looking forward to the eighties with confidence.

It will not be long, Cologne sociologist Professor Erwin Scheuch predicts, before the well-to-do, particularly those in prominent social positions, will start planning large families again. At the moment the ideal family comprises two children. According to Professor Scheuch it will soon comprise three. "Children," he says, "are a luxury, but one which people are beginning to feel they can afford."

Ursula Holmeyer
(Deutsche Allgemeine
Sonntagsblatt, 19 March 1972)

Brisk business at Munich sportsware fair

Ispo 72, the International Sportsware Trade Fair in Munich, which concentrates particularly on winter sports articles has exceeded all expectations. According to a survey that was taken at the end of the exhibition eighty per cent of the exhibitors said their business dealings had been good.

The organiser of the fair Dr Werner Marzin went so far as to say that "business was so good it exceeded the wildest expectations", when questioned by journalists at a press conference.

After two sleepy winter there was no lack of scepticism. Sales manager Ludwig Sittmann, a member of the Ispo expert advisory committee said: "According to the law of averages next winter should be fantastic." At any rate the sportsware firms have taken this line and based their calculations on it.

An independent market research company commissioned by the Munich Fairs and Exhibitions Society (MMG) asked exhibitors for their opinions of Ispo 72.

The result: Eighty per cent said their trading at the Fair was a positive success and forty to 42 per cent said business was "good" or "very good".

In fact the visiting exhibitors from the most important winter sports countries outside Germany, Austria, France, Norway, Switzerland and Italy, were more full of praise at the way the exhibition was organised than the West German exhibitors were. In the first few days the foreign sportsware companies realised that business would be brisker than last year.

And at the press conference it was discovered that summer sports articles had sold as well as winter sports items. The craze for physical fitness and "fighting the flab" are affecting business in the right way.

It was noticed that prices have settled down somewhat and that in the case of certain articles there had even been slight price cuts.

Among the summer sports archery is gaining ground now that its acceptance as an Olympic discipline has brought it to the attention of a broader public.

Fritz Wöck
(Münchener Merkur, 13 March 1972)

Food, food, glorious food at Hamburg

More exhibitors than ever before — eight hundred firms from 24 different countries — came to the exhibition halls at Planten un Blomen in Hamburg with a spread to delight the most finicky of palates and stomachs and to help stock the most sophisticated of cellars and kitchens.

For one week experts from the world of catering, hotel managing, baking and confectionery mingled with the world's gourmets and maybe a few gourmands at Intermorga 72, the international exhibition for experts from both sides of the world of catering. Here were all the new ideas for the lover of good food and drink to see and taste.

The technical side of the eating and drinking business has once again dominated the Hamburg fair, making up about sixty per cent of the exhibits. The technologists have provided labour-saving devices and other gadgets such as an automatic bottle destroyer, which has now been adapted to flatten empty cans and an icebreaker that works on a conveyor belt system.

A newly developed universal hot air system has been designed for baking, frying and grilling which can burn out

four hundred steaks in eight minutes or 384 fish fillets in twelve minutes.

Lovers of a good cup of coffee are not neglected. A new machine on exhibition in Hamburg can prepare four cups of coffee in a minute for anyone who can drink them that quickly. The difference between this and other such machines already in production is that it makes each cup individually and beautifully fresh. And whipped cream for your coffee or your cakes can now be produced automatically in seconds.

One of the main emphases of Intermorga 72 was the wide range of international drink and fine food specialties. Of all the alcoholic beverages beer has a special role in the world of catering. And so the Hamburg fair gave over a large section of its exhibition area to brewers. British, French, Danish and Czech breweries are concentrating more and more on the West German market for their beer sales. Experts state that there is a marked trend in favour of beers of the Pilsener type with a recognised brand name in the Federal Republic.

In the past year there was a marked increase in the sales of rum, Cognac, Scotch, and spirits distilled from fruits. But there were declining sales of other

foreign liquors.

When it comes to non-alcoholic thirst quencher there is a growing demand from West German consumers for a pure water that is proof against the perils of pollution. Sales of mineral waters and natural spring waters are shooting up. And according to the experts the day is not far off when West Germans who fancy a real thirst quencher will not turn on the tap but will draw their water from a bottle. A Düsseldorf firm that imports spring water from France achieved a turnover of 30,000 hectolitres in seven months. Several West German breweries and dairies

Sales for winter sportsware, particularly ski have been 'fantastic', said an exhibitor at the Munich fair. (Photo: Rudolf Probst)



■ PROFILE

Wilhelm Bauer - the inventor of the submersible

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Nautilus, a species of shellfish, was the name chosen by Jules Verne more than a century ago to conjure up visions of underwater travel and adventure. The same name was given to the first American nuclear submarine, launched in 1955, which in July 1958 was to sail in four days under the Arctic pack-ice from the Bering Straits to Greenland, covering a distance of 2,000 miles in the process.

This is only one of the predictions of the Frenchman who was the world's first science fiction writer to have come true. Submarines have certainly come into their own in naval warfare.

After use in two World Wars they are still felt to have a significant future as an arm of the services. What is more, underwater craft - especially since the Second World War - have increasingly served a purpose that promises still to involve a largely unforeseeable abundance of adventures, possible discoveries and applications: ploughing the ocean depths.

There is not only talk of scientific targets. There has been mention of cities on the seabed and exploiting the natural riches of the ocean. Research stations in which scientists can spend weeks and months underwater are already in operation.

Jacques Piccard's Trieste has dived to a depth of 36,100 feet in the vicinity of the Mariana Islands. His Mesoskope, a tourist submarine seating forty, can submerge to a depth of 3,445 feet.

Diving has been one of man's age-old ambitions, like the desire to fly. Alexander the Great is alleged to have embarked on expeditions on the seabed, though of course he used a diving bell, which was known in antiquity.

In 1624 Cornelius Drebbel of Holland sailed at a depth of three fathoms under the surface of the Thames in what he called an underwater galley.

During the American War of Independence Sergeant Lee in 1776 tried to approach a British warship and attach an explosive charge below the water-line with the aid of a man-powered underwater capsule designed by a fellow-American by the name of Bushnell.

On 23 March 1822 - 150 years ago - Wilhelm Bauer was born in Dillingen on the Danube. In 1849 he took part in the German campaign against Denmark as a Bavarian artillery NCO.

At one point the Germans would have had a marvellous opportunity if only a bridge could have been destroyed that a large Danish force needed for purposes of retreat and regrouping.

The bridge was guarded by Danish warships and Bauer had the idea of approaching one of the supports unnoticed - underwater - and attaching an explosive charge.

Unfortunately the plan could not be put into effect, a contributory factor being that his Alpine superior officers failed to grasp the idea. Landlubbers all, they felt it was impossible and a disappointed Bauer continued his military career in Schleswig-Holstein.

Campaign experiences had not been without effect and Bauer, a turner by trade, found ready ears among his new superiors when he outlined his plan for a submarine warcraft. He was paid thirty thalers for a scale model of his design.

It was seal-shaped, Bauer having spent some time studying the diving habits of seals. It was built of copper and propeller-driven by a clockwork motor and trials in Kiel harbour were a great success.

On board, as it were, there were two chambers that could be flooded and pumped dry as the need arose. The miniature craft submerged and surfaced according to plan. It could be steered to port or starboard as required.

In principle the model anticipated every aspect of modern submarines except for the engines and was capable of every kind of manoeuvre.

Bauer was not commissioned to build a full-sized prototype, however, the general staff merely calling for the surrender of the model, which had been built from materials bought with government funds.

Bauer was annoyed but had to comply. He worked to rule, though, and returned the material value in the form of a heap of scrap metal. He was then promptly given a punishment posting.

He found patrons nonetheless and funds were raised by subscription to construct the real thing. There was not enough to carry out his plans to the full, so unwillingly he agreed to design alterations to keep the costs down.

Ballast water was to be pumped into the hull rather than into separate cylinders. The thickness of the hull was also reduced. The propeller was turned by treadmill, two hefty sailors being selected to do the donkey work, both having volunteered to do the job.

Early in February 1851 the submersible set out for its first diving trials off Kiel, accompanied by auxiliary craft. Down to a certain depth everything went according to plan. Then the cheeseparing began to tell.

The walls of the hull were dented by the pressure of the water. The treadmill jammed. The rivets worked loose and water poured in. The three men spent seven hours down below. Attempts to rescue them had to be abandoned but somehow or other Bauer and his two aides managed to escape from their underwater tomb.

An unprejudiced observer ought to have realised that little more was needed to construct a viable submarine. Germany, however, did not want to know. Most military men felt Bauer's invention to be superfluous and slightly unnerving.

The inventor moved to Austria, which then had an Adriatic coastline and maritime interests. But the Austrians too procrastinated and Bauer was disappointed in England, where Bauer then hoped to bring his plans to fruition.

It transpired that certain parties were interested merely in cornering the design. Most military men were as sceptical in Britain as they had been elsewhere. He was to meet with success in Russia. The *Sea Devil*, launched in Kronstadt in 1856, carried out 133 diving missions. On its 134th voyage, in 1857, this craft also



Wilhelm Bauer

sank, taking with it a complement of fourteen men. Like its predecessor it was powered by treadmill.

Yet even in Russia Bauer's hopes were to be dashed. The corrupt Tsarist bureaucracy covertly stymied his plans. In 1858 he returned to Bavaria, living for a while on the savings he had accumulated in Russia.

Eventually King Ludwig granted him a pension. The last time Wilhelm Bauer made a name for himself was when, in the sixties, he was instrumental in salvaging the *Ludwig*, a postal steamer that had sunk after a collision.

The people who derived the greatest benefit from Bauer's achievement, that of designing the first viable submarine, were the last to give him the credit.

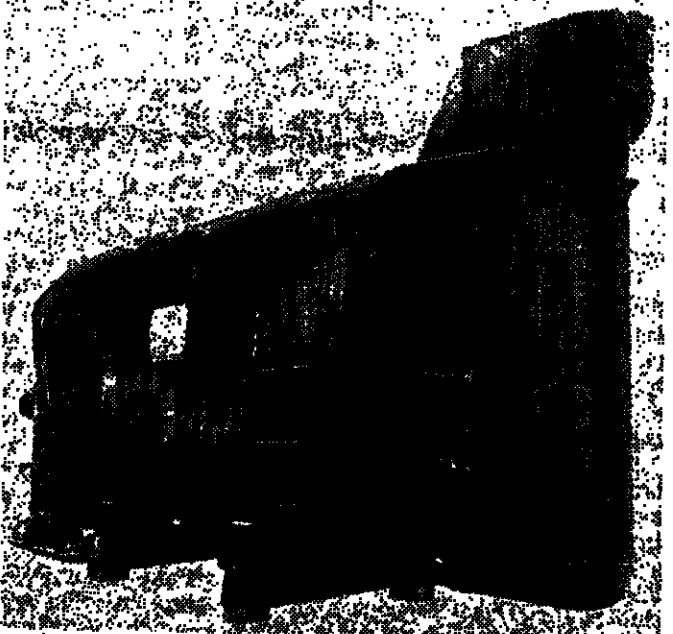
Since he had spent much of his time travelling round Europe hawking his invention the know-how was widely spread. In the American civil war a Confederate submarine sank the North's largest warship. The submarine, still man-powered, was inadvertently blown up along with the warship.

It was not until the end of the century that the appropriate means of propulsion - batteries under water and diesel power on the surface simultaneously recharging the batteries - were perfected.

Submarines have been part and parcel of the arms race since the beginning of this century. The Treaty of Versailles included a ban on the ownership of submarines by the vanquished.

Wilhelm Bauer himself did not even live to see the salvaging of his first craft from the bottom of the Bay of Kiel in 1887. He died in Munich on 18 June 1876, aged a mere fifty-four. Jürgen Ostermeyer

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 23 March 1972)



Bauer's submersible at the Maritime museum in Berlin

(Photos: Staatshilothek, Berlin)

ADAC urges motorists to use safety belts

According to a survey commissioned by ADAC, the Federal Republic's motoring organisation, three drivers out of four do not have safety belts in their cars and of those that do, ninety per cent do not fasten them on long journeys. At 95 per cent do not go to the trouble of town.

The latest issue of *Motorwelt*, the club's monthly magazine, contains frightening pictures of eye, head and body injuries sustained by motorists using safety belts.

Opel of Rüsselsheim, near Frankfurt, have concluded from a survey that a half the 8,600 motorists who died in a wheel in 1970 could still be alive today had only used safety belts.

Munich ophthalmologist Dr. M. Jensen estimates that nine out of ten injuries sustained in car accidents (five out of ten lost at least one eye) could be avoided by wearing belts.

Opel's commentary notes that "the grinds to a halt, the driver and passenger keep on going." Their diaphragms on against the steering wheels, their feet against the windscreen frame or the windscreen and their knees against a dashboard.

The danger cannot be kept at arm's length, the experts say. It would be more than a heavyweight athlete to off the impact with his outstretched arm.

At a mere thirty miles an hour a person weighing 165 pounds is thrown forward so powerfully that his weight corresponds to 1,650 pounds, Opel says. In order to absorb the impact over a distance of 50 feet he would have to employ 550 pounds of muscle power. The corresponding world weightlifting record stands at 484 pounds.

Safety belts stand substitute for superhuman muscle power at a negligible cost, the report continues. Some 120 million safety belts, spread over a period of 10 years or so, amount to only a few pfennigs a day.

Experts will hear nothing of arguments that belts are a handicap when the vehicle goes up in flames or plunges into the water. Most fires, they point out, occur the aftermath of an accident. An unconscious driver who has not worn safety belt will not be able to make getaway in any case.

(Neue Hannoverische Presse, 20 March 1972)

Food, food

Continued from page 7

are preparing to enter this growing market for "Sprudel" or "Branse".

Caterers at Planten un Blumen put on show the largest collection of plants that has ever been seen at one exhibition. The kitchen staff from 51 north German companies presented 124 cold platters and buffet meals that would have made a Roman emperor's mouth water, let alone the visitors to the fair.

A special exhibition was devoted to the history of china through the ages. It glances back at developments since 1700 when Johann Friedrich Böttger made the first porcelain vessel from brown clay.

Again the fair covered the aspect of hotel catering and the furnishing of hotel rooms. On show were three examples of hotel furnishing ranging from the standard with whitewood, modernistic furniture and gay colours to the rustic room (with original Salzburg country furniture) and a luxury room in an imaginary hotel with rare woods, fine silks and expensive carpets, all imparting an exclusive flair and showing that when it comes to luxury there is no room for rationalisation. Gert Kistenmacher

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 15 March 1972)

■ MOTORING

Doubts expressed concerning fairness of the breathalyzer

Drunken drivers are jubilant and a senior Hamburg doctor's controversial research findings of some years' standing have been confirmed. Current practice in taking a blood alcohol count is evidently not as foolproof as lawyers and medical men have so far felt to be the case.

Experiments conducted by the Hamburg institute of forensic medicine and criminology recently proved that the alcohol count as taken shortly after the accident can vary considerably from the count at the time of the crash. Variations of up to 30 milligrammes were registered.

Hamburg doctor Hermann Roer feels this startling conclusion to be a feather in his cap. He published similar results five years ago after conducting experiments with guinea pigs but his conclusions were rejected by specialist opinion.

Specialists accused Dr. Roer, an outsider, of not conducting his experiments in strict accordance with scientific requirements. The latest results, he rejoins, prove that the current method of estimating blood alcohol at the time of the accident on the basis of subsequent measurements are untenable.

To take an example based on the latest results, let us assume that the blood alcohol count at the time of measurement is 150 milligrammes but was in fact, when the accident occurred or the driver was stopped, only 120 milligrammes.

In this instance the motorist would in

fact have been below the current upper limit of 130 milligrammes. This could have been the case with thirty people who took part in the Hamburg experiments. Fairly considerable variations in alcohol count were found to occur between ten and twenty minutes after the presumed accident.

It is Dr. Roer's considered opinion that the current method of estimating the level of alcohol in the blood at the time of the accident cannot fail to lead to errors.

With figures varying so much from individual to individual the automatic assumption that the blood alcohol count decreases steadily can be mistaken. It is thus unfair to add ten milligrammes per unit of time elapsed since the accident.

At present it is reckoned that the average drinker processes between fifteen and twenty milligrammes of alcohol per centilitre of blood per hour. Ten milligrammes is the figure usually taken.

The latest research results, Dr. Roer feels, cannot fail to make their mark on court rulings.

The purpose of the tests conducted by the Hamburg forensic scientists was to determine how reliable a much-vaunted and less complicated new method of gauging drunkenness is. Instead of taking a blood test the suspect's breath is analysed. The advantage, advocates of the new method claim, is that there is no longer any need to work back in arith-

metical progression to the time of the accident. The tests were intended to determine whether or not the method was reliable.

Their scepticism was proved justified. The tests revealed that variations occur even when the breath test is taken as soon as possible. So a reconstruction of the presumed count at the time of the accident remains necessary.

The conclusion reached was that neither a prompt blood test nor the breathalyzer give an accurate guide to the blood alcohol count at the time in question.

Even so Dr. Roer feels that electronic breath tests as conducted in Switzerland, Ireland and Canada cannot be dismissed out of hand.

"They work faster than the conventional blood test, can be incorporated into any police vehicle and are thus mobile," he comments.

The discrepancies recorded can, he reckons, be offset by increasing the present upper limit from 130 to 150 milligrammes. With a margin of uncertainty of twenty milligrammes either way the effective present criterion of being unfit to drive is a blood alcohol count of 110 milligrammes.

This discrepancy, he claims, represents a legacy of the uncertainty of blood test methods he describes as mediaeval.

Hans-Dieter Gall

(Handelsblatt, 15 March 1972)

Self-drive urban scooter network

Scale-model trials of the cabin taxi system are to be conducted over the next six months, according to the Ministry of Education and Science in Bonn. The trials will form part of a three-year support programme.

This year the Ministry's allocations for technological research and development amount to 290 million Marks, a sum that is to double by 1975.

The cabin taxi system, developed by Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm and DEMAG, employs small vehicles just over six foot long and seating three.

They stand ready and waiting at stops along an urban suspension railway system and can be driven off around town at a height of ten feet or so above the ground and abandoned at the destination.

The Ministry has also been helping to finance work on an ice-going bulk cargo freighter that is under way at the Bremen shipyards of AG Weser. Results are expected some time next year.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 23 March 1972)

EEC driving licence

The introduction of a uniform driving licence in the member-countries of the European Common Market is obviously a none too distant prospect.

Horst Seefeld, a Social Democrat member of the Bundestag, claims to have learnt from the EEC Commission that mutual recognition and standardisation of driving tests are to be submitted to the EEC Council of Ministers for approval in the first half of this year.

Preliminary work on drafting regulations of this nature began early last year. (Handelsblatt, 17 March 1972)

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■ PERFORMING ARTS

Brecht's *Threepenny Opera*
produced in Hamburg

Stadteinschätzung

The medium-height Brecht curtain hung before the stage but it was not the usual grey colour that prompts sober criticism and prevents identification with the characters.

Instead it was resplendent in a beautiful red and the production of Brecht's *Threepenny Opera* is just as vague and ambiguous with a touch of luxury. This was Dieter Giesing's debut at the Hamburg Schauspielhaus as chief producer of the Ivan Nagel era that is just beginning there.

The evening began as a threepenny revue from the age of the Charleston and this is defensible as it is almost impossible nowadays to stage the work just as Brecht would have wanted.

The touch of the authentic produced by the old Telefunken discs listened to in small conspirative circles under the Nazi regime cannot be reproduced. Things have changed. Anyone living in such pleasant affluence as the audience at the Hamburg premiere will look upon the protest songs of the twenties as the hit singles of today.

The play has to be altered a little today if a production of the play is to be credible. Some good explanation has to be made of why the rather old and at times rather tired-seeming material is once again being sung and staged.

It could be beneficial to the story for it to be transferred to the twenties and for the wedding to take place in a garage instead of a stable. And the evening does begin on a promising note.

Two black veteran cars drive around the empty stage representing Soho and the gangsters in them feud as the prostitutes rush out of their brothel half-naked and survey this picture of horror. The passers-by react as passers-by would.

But this is the point at which the theatre-goer will start to have doubts. Film techniques are used to make the events more decorative and more fashionable. What is more, gangsters in old Humphrey Bogart films used to fall out of their cars far better.

The audience soon notices the extent to which Giesing has noticed that the critical onlooker does not have enough

faith to take the message of the play at its face value. He alienates the alienated, turning it into a sort of variety show where there is no longer any commitment to political or social ideals. The audience can always see what Giesing is trying to avoid.

When Jenny and Mackie dance the pimp's ballad, he does not have them closely pressed together in a voluptuous ritual. There is no suggestion of memories of the unforgettable lingering over the scene. A brilliant tango parody with wonderfully excited poses reveals that nothing is to be taken seriously as it is all only an excuse for popular theatre.

So far, so good. That can be understood but then Giesing falls into his own trap. When the poorest of the poor come on to stage after the interval, it is this commitment to Socialist ideals to be taken at face value?

This is where the production falls down. Here it has to pay the price for the fact that what could perhaps have been rescued for the work by strict concentration has in fact been sacrificed to the demands of popular theatre.

But it was an impressive star parade of leading West German actors and actresses. Rolf Boysen gave Mack the Knife a misleading bourgeois elegance. His tenor voice gave a superbly accurate rendition of the songs as they should be sung.

Traugott Buhr as Peachum stressed the pragmatic capitalist more than the behind-the-scenes string-puller. Gisela Trows as Mrs Peachum was just as addicted to drink but she was not so run-down, thank goodness, as many of her predecessors in the role.

Gertraud Jesserer disappointed in the role of Polly and this was not only due to her thin voice. Christa Berndl was so energetic as Jenny that she together with Boysen received the lion's share of the applause.

Werner Burkhardt (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 15 March 1972)



Rolf Boysen as Mack the Knife in the Hamburg production of Brecht's *Threepenny Opera* (Photo: Rosemarie Clausen)

Hans Lietzau
succeeds Barlog
in Berlin

The Boleslaw Barlog era is coming to an end after 27 years. Hans Lietzau, the new general-manager of the municipal theatres in Berlin, will officially take up his post in August.

But he has already put forward his ideas for the Schiller Theater, the Schlosspark Theater and the Schiller Theater Studio. Lietzau, who has returned to Berlin from Hamburg, states that he wants to create a Berlin-style theatre.

Lietzau said at a press conference that Berlin's new position and the promising political situation offered better opportunities for West Berlin theatres. He wants dialectical theatre and contemporary playwrights are to form a permanent part of the theatre programme.

Dramatic adviser Ernst Wendt, who came with Lietzau from Hamburg, added that ideological drama has been performed in Berlin for many years. Anti-ideological drama was now to be staged. Lietzau plans to put his ideas into effect with a number of new producers and members of cast. Willi Schmidt, Dieter Dom and Hans Hollmann will be the usual producers while Bert Kistner and Wilfried Minks will be on constant call as stage designers.

Wolfgang Gielmi and Peter Fischer will be responsible for the musical sphere while Peter Fitz, Dieter Hildebrandt and Harald Müller will act as dramatic advisers.

Film acting engagements have been offered to Martin Held, Helmut Griem, Reinhold Solf, Gisela Stein, Heidemarie Theobald, Carla Hagen, Gerd Böckmann, Verena Buss, Peter Matić and Nikolaus Paryla.

Lietzau himself will produce Kleist's *Prince of Homburg* at the beginning of the new season and will follow this up with Edward Bond's *King Lear* and Schiller's *Don Carlos*.

Other new productions include Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, to be produced by Hans Hollmann, Aristophanes' *Birds*, Raimund's *Alpenkönig und Menschenfeind*, Genet's *Balloon*, *der Horatier* by East German Heiner Müller and *Wildwechsel* by Franz Xaver Krötz.

(Kleiner Nachrichten, 20 March 1972)

Audience promotion
schemes announced for
Hamburg theatre

Ivan Nagel, general-manager of the Deutsches Schauspielhaus in Hamburg since the beginning of the year, plans to banish the latent threat of crisis hanging over the largest theatre in West Germany by seeking greater, more democratic contacts with the man in the street.

Hagen announced at a press conference that a new "check-book" scheme is being introduced at the theatre. It goes a certain distance in reducing prices. There will also be a programme for the suburbs and outlying areas of the city.

The great works of world literature figure prominently on the programme and well-known actors will also be on theatre's books, he added.

Among the works planned for the 1972/73 season are Shakespeare's *As You Like It* with Christoph Bantzer, *Die Lichtenhahn* and Hermann Schöningh's *School for Women* with Quadt, Nestor's *Talisman* with Gertraud Jesserer and Sternheim's *1913* with Joana Maria Gorvin and, in the star role, Werner Hinz on his seventieth birthday.

Among the more contemporary works are *Das lange Leben* by Tankred Dorst, play about the last years of Kuno Hamann with Werner Hinz, Brendan Behan's *Hostage* and Jean Genet's play *Le Balcon*, *The Walls*, starring Maria Bött and Elisabeth Flickenschildt.

The Hypochondriacs by Botho Strauß will be given its premiere. The play is with the decadence common at the end of the century.

There will be plenty of variety in the repertoire, the Schauspielhaus states. German premieres of Tennessee Williams' *A.C. - D.C.* and Guare's *Hooper*, *Pope's Here* are planned.

A festival of amateur theatre ensembles is also in preparation. The first production that will go the rounds through the suburbs will be a Goldoni play.

Another innovation is the cheque book with six vouchers that can be used at any time. Fifteen-per-cent discount is offered. The cloakroom and programme will be free in future but the admission price has had to be raised. The most expensive tickets will now cost 23 instead of 18 Marks though a lot of cheap seats will be available at only four Marks - all extra included.

(Kleiner Nachrichten, 16 March 1972)

Frankfurt theatre
plans

Details about the actor participation scheme to operate in Frankfurt theatres next season are still vague. Peter Palitzsch has declined to be chairman of the actors union and says he has only been given the job at the present stage so as to help things progress.

The second man on the directorate will be stage-designer Klaus Gelhaar and the third will be elected by the new ensemble this autumn.

The details of the new scheme will be thrashed out behind closed doors.

Palitzsch's theatre programme will be so revolutionary as many people feared. A Brecht play will once again be seen at Frankfurt after a long absence. This time *Die Diktator* is to be performed.

Among the other works planned are Kleist's *Kathchen von Heubronn*, Nestor's *Alpenkönig und Menschenfeind*, Genet's *Balloon*, *der Horatier* by East German Heiner Müller and *Wildwechsel* by Franz Xaver Krötz.

(Die Welt, 17 March 1972)

■ CINEMA

Young filmmakers' work gets a
welcome screening in Duisburg

North Rhine-Westphalia's Ministry for the Arts is presenting a selection of West German films for which no distributor could be found for the second time at the Film Forum in Duisburg, the pioneering "community cinema".

Eleven films will be presented at the three-day festival, entitled simply *Film 71*. They are *Die Zelle* (The cell) by Horst Bienek, *Brüno der Schwarze* (Black Bruno) by Lutz Eisholz, *Film für Cheyenne* by Klaus Emmerich, *Wannung vor einer heiligen Nute* (Beware the pious whore) by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, *Fata Morgana* (Mirage) by Werner Herzog, *Ich bin ein Mensch* (I'm human...) by William Janovsky, *Ein Held kam aus der Küche* (A hero came from the kitchen) by Hans-Dieter Kirmse, *Olme Nachtsicht* (No looking back) by Theodor Kotulla, *Liebe so schön wie Liebe* (Love as beautiful as love) by Klaus Lemke, *Fräulein von Stradonitz in memoriam* by Wolfgang Urich and *Summer in the City* by Wim Wenders.

These are all works that come into the category of "neuer deutscher Film" (socially involved films as well as examination works from the two West German film academies situated in Munich and Berlin).

Though they have not gone on the normal circuits they are generally known already from television broadcasts and presentations at film festivals and in club cinemas.

For this reason an inventory that was taken of non-commercial films in the Federal Republic and which was useful background material for the official lectures and discussions as well as peripheral discussion groups at the festival proved all the more useful.

The present situation with regard to

independent West German films is pleasing and bodes well for the future. Improvements that must be made to this situation include the provision of more specialised cinemas in which they can be shown, better distribution of the film copies available and a better selection of films at the cinemas already in existence. Needless to say the main improvement that could be made is the provision of extra cash for which arms will have to be twisted both in Bonn and the state capitals.

The latest example of miserly financial provision was when a series of forty films and shorts by young West German filmmakers was sent to New York for presentation in the Museum of Modern Art. The Foreign Office in Bonn provided a meagre 17,000 Marks for this venture.

This sum is just enough to have English subtitles put on two of the films and buy air tickets for two directors of the films nominated to New York.

Because of this shortage of money which makes the provision of subtitles impossible Vlado Kristl with *Oberrückel* (Authoritarian film) and Rosa von Praunheim with her *Nicht der Homosexuelle ist pervers, sondern die Gesellschaft, in der er lebt* (It's not the homosexual who's perverse, but the society in which he lives) have cried off from the New York venture. They feel their works would be incomprehensible to an American audience without subtitling.

Chinese films
to be shown at
Oberhausen

Frankfurter Allgemeine

For the first time in twelve years filmmakers from the People's Republic of China will get a showing at the West German short film festival in Oberhausen between 24 and 28 April. The organisers of this international festival have stated, however, that so far only the general acceptance of the representatives of Chinese filmmakers had been received. The number of films to be submitted by them is not yet known.

This year's festival will concentrate on the Yugoslav short film. One hundred and fifty films from Yugoslavia were offered and at the Belgrade National Festival the 26 to be shown at Oberhausen were selected. Thus Yugoslavia's numerical contribution will be the highest of any country.

The festival in 1973 will again be featuring a look back, and this time the theme will most likely be the films made by German émigrés between 1933 and 1945. To test whether this subject is likely to prove a success this year's festival will hark back to two Fritz Lang films concerning the problems of the political émigré: *Hangmen also die* and *Man Hunt*.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 March 1972)

There are now 43 community cinemas in this country operating in universities, clubs, museums and the like in 32 cities. The films which are felt to have no chance on the commercial circuit are supported financially, either wholly or in part, by the local authorities.

The Berlin Film and Television Academy is to publish a 280-page guide to these cinemas, entitled *Über das Kino-machen*.

Most West German cities that have not already got at least one community cinema are taking steps in that direction, with one notable exception. The idea has not yet even begun to germinate in Hanover!

It was decided in Duisburg that there would have to be greater contact among the community cinemas in the different cities in future if the programme were to be better balanced and more interesting.

Furthermore joint planning, exchanges of series of films and the production of joint material giving information about the community cinemas, their work and the films they screen would cut administrative costs. And it would be useful if in future the programme of film festivals and look-backs were constructed in such a way that they could be passed on in toto to community cinemas in other cities.

The effect of Neuer deutscher Film on the general public could be heightened - which was an important achievement of this three-day seminar in Duisburg - by making it easier for the individual cinemas to get hold of films, by concentrating them on a few cities in the Federal Republic and by boosting the literature surrounding the cinemas and the films they show.

In this respect they newly formed *Koordinationsbüro Film* in Munich promises to be useful and has given rise to great hopes. When this is working in top gear it could and should be a headquarters and information centre for non-commercial films.

Klaus Morgenstern
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 17 March 1972)

Plans for the
West Berlin
Festival 1972

Walther Schmieding, director general of the Berlin Festival, has invited a number of other groups to perform works during the Festival being held this year from 10 September to 10 October.

These include the Grand Magic Circus from Paris and groups from Stockholm and Madrid that will give performances of *Danton's Death* by Büchner and García Lorca's *Yerma*.

Jerome Savary, the head of the Grand Magic Circus, provides new examples of total theatre in the two plays he wrote and directs himself - *Les Chroniques Coloniales* and *The Last Lonely Days of Robinson Crusoe*.

Danton's Death, staged by the German-born Swedish producer Michael Meschke, will be performed in the criminal court at Moabit.

Victor García is the producer of Lorca's *Yerma* being performed by the Compania Nuria Espect with Nuria Espect in the title role.

György Ligeti has been commissioned to write a work for the Festival. This will be given its first performance on 16 September by the Berlin Philharmonic together with soloists Lothar Koch on the oboe and Karlheinz Zöller on the flute.

Gundula Janowitz and Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau will be the soloists in Brahms' *Deutsches Requiem* being performed on 23 and 24 September by the Berlin Philharmonic under Kamjan along with the Wiener Sing-Verein.

Fischer-Dieskau will also sing in Mendelssohn's *Paulus* on 1 October. Lorin Maazel will conduct the Radio Symphony Orchestra and the choir of the Deutsche Oper.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 March 1972)

Film of Hamburg uprising in
1923 is a sincere production

indirectly passes comment on the political situation in the present.

The major part is given over to statements and discussions of the old Communists. Something astonishing emerges from this: the people involved are all over sixty, yet they are presented in such a way, so vital and so penetrating, that it seems as if they are sitting in the same room and what they are saying becomes all the more fascinating.

This makes us realise how hateful one of the worst faults of television is, namely the way it reduces original statements to

empty phrases which seem prefabricated, to an interchangeable link in a chain of arguments that has already been created. Wildenhahn and his team give their interviewees time and freedom to speak. They study faces and life histories. The fates of these people become more flexible and remain a basis and a filter for political enlightenment. Sober wisdom effuses from these faces with their astonishingly precise, clear and realistic features.

And something else becomes clearer: these men and women neither quote nor dole out agitprop, they never become fanatical nor dogmatic. For them Com-

munist wasn't and isn't a panacea nor an ideology, but a natural basic demand. The class struggle is not a theoretical concept but a private, everyday experience which they formulate without pauses, accusations nor aggressions, not posing as martyrs nor lapsing into modish revolutionary jargon.

For them the experience was hunger, strikes, trials, prison, concentration camps and a life of long hard work.

Not only does the film throw light on an occurrence to which the history books do not do justice. It also corrects the attitudes of many leftist filmmakers who always look on the worker as an object for arrogant didacticism or as a fabulous creature symbolising the desirable flux of the intellectual and the working classes.

Unintentionally Wildenhahn unmasks all the filmmakers' idolatries and their socialist turns of duty which can be seen at any film festival revealing them as inhumane and full of fossilised abstractions. They lack what comes naturally to this film: honour, humanity and credibility.

It is an attractive subject, an authentic documentation, with inner tension and the human touch. This film would have gone down well on television screens for which it was also designed, but apart from Westdeutscher Rundfunk's Third Programme none of the TV companies have touched it.

Wolf Donner
(Die Zeit, 17 March 1972)

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■ EDUCATION

Arguments in favour of university expansion are often misleading

An international organisation placed an advertisement in a nationwide West German daily in 1962 calling for applications to be made for grants for the training of "human resource specialists". Three West Germans were among the four hundred or so applicants from throughout Europe.

If the same advertisement had appeared a few years later, the organisation in question would not have needed to complain about the shortage of applicants from the Federal Republic.

Educational economics had in the meantime become a sector of research that was being explored enthusiastically by economists, sociologists and educationalists.

Forecasts were immediately made. Schools, universities, classrooms, teachers, pupils and graduates were classified and categorised with respect to future demands.

It was therefore possible to estimate the approximate number of graduates who would be needed at a particular time if the Federal Republic were not to lag hopelessly behind other industrial nations as far as economics and technology were concerned.

A number of events in the sector of education policy in recent years prompt observers to take stock and examine whether or not damage has often been done to those young people who have been told and are still being told that an academic degree is a passport to a professional paradise on earth.

Realistic appraisal of the links between education and the labour market would have avoided a lot of the confusion among students who looked upon universities as a place of learning instead of the battleground of political forces and who viewed State support, that is the taxpayers' money, as an obligation incumbent upon them.

An examination of the courses begun by new students in their first or second terms at a university or institute of further education shows that the majority of students were not thinking of a future profession when choosing their subject.

Apart from faculties such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, pharmacology and theology which take up 18.3 per cent of registered students, the student population is divided up as follows:

Law 11.0 per cent, economics 16.2 per cent, the arts 25.0 per cent, mathematics 3.0 per cent, physics 4.6 per cent,

New system to be introduced for school libraries

In future West German schools will not have separate libraries for the teaching staff and the pupils with a different selection of books but a central school library available for all, as a result of plans proposed by the central advisory office for school libraries in Frankfurt, which was brought to the attention of a conference of specialists in Kassel.

Furthermore an effort is being made to train school librarians who would have both educational and librarian experience. The present system whereby a member of the school staff volunteers to look after the school library has been described as totally unsatisfactory. At present the Federal German School libraries system ranks alongside that in France as the worst in Europe.

(Die Welt, 24 March 1972)

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

chemistry 3.3 per cent, other sciences 2.9 per cent, engineering 10.4 per cent, architecture 1.3 per cent and other subjects 4.0 per cent. The figures are those for 1967.

These statistics only deal with male students. The figures for female students are not so interesting for a variety of reasons. If women do study, they always take a subject connected with a particular profession. A total of 40.5 per cent of girl students studied education in 1967. Seventeen per cent studied languages. The other percentages are insignificant as 42.5 per cent are divided into 24 subjects. The link between study and future professional position is often of no more than theoretical interest for female students.

Most male students, or the eighty per cent who do not study medicine, pharmacology or theology, would find it rewarding to examine some of the clichés that have sprung up out of public discussion of education in recent years.

Advocates of university expansion on as great a scale as possible argue that academic study is necessary to gain the qualifications for the constantly increasing demands of a world of labour that is becoming increasingly complicated.

Anyone who has worked in industry or has answered or issued the advertisement for a job knows that a university degree is often an open sesame into professional life. It is of importance when making the first rough selection of candidates as well as later when the selection processes become more refined.

Whether the knowledge acquired during study is ever needed is another question. Once accepted, the graduate must show that he is equal to the demands placed upon him. If he is not, even the best degrees are worthless. If he is not suitable he must go or take up an unimportant post with the firm.

Ability and not education is the decisive factor in a person's career. University study is not necessarily vital, even for top posts. A survey of the educational background of top industrial executives in West Germany in 1971 showed that one in ten had not passed their school-leaving examinations and that one in four had not studied at a university.

The educational requirements of any particular career vary considerably as shown by statistics drawn up to reveal clear links between certain degrees and certain types of profession.

All statistical surveys of this type come to the conclusion that there are no connections between the top posts in the various professions and a university education. There are a number of types of training that will meet with the requirements of any one profession.

Commerce and administration are good examples. At first glance economics graduates seem to have the best qualifications for careers in this sector. But statistics show that there are more and more law, arts and science graduates entering this field along with non-graduates or people who have attended schools of economics.

The rise in the number of people employed in commerce and administration that must be expected as these service industries increase in importance must not lead to the false conclusion that the number of economics graduates must rise at the same rate in order to satisfy the demand.

Professional requirements must be seen

as a whole complex and not one-dimensionally. It is impossible to set out a table of professions and specify the intellectual and academic abilities needed, thus establishing an order of precedence for professions and a corresponding order of precedence for educational qualifications.

It would be a fatal mistake to rule that an academic education was essential for certain professions because of the growing importance of technology, science and research in economic life and the higher qualifications that employers are said to demand.

The demand for graduates seems to be rising in the short term but this is confusing cause and effect. The rise in demand is not due to any real needs but is quite simply the employers' reaction to the large number of graduates available.

The danger facing the whole economy when exaggerated importance is attached to study is that finance and ability may both go to the wrong places. The danger for individuals is professional frustration which can often end ambitions awoken by their studies.

Too high a standard of education will lead to as many difficulties in professional life as too low a standard. If for example a qualified engineer working at a large well-known concern because of the prestige of its name, its pensions scheme and security has only to construct cogs of various sizes and nothing but cogs, he will one day ask himself whether he really needed to study four years for this post.

Another common belief among advocates of university education and large sections of the population is that an increasing standard of education will lead to increasing mobility.

Students are also misled into believing that specialists are no longer wanted. Instead people should have all-round abilities and expertise enabling them to adapt at all times to the constantly changing demands of a changing economy.

If it is said for instance that physicists specialising in solids must be able to participate in chemical or biological projects. In the field of economics tax experts must be able to take over the duties of a system analyst and a market researcher must be able to work as a financial planner if the situation on the labour market demands it.

Things are however different in prac-

tice. It is only specialists that can make a career for themselves these days. They of all trades are not wanted. A university graduate is not specialised enough if he has a number of years of practical work behind him.

By that time he will be in his early middle thirties. If he wants to change job he need only read the situation vacant column in the large dailies. Changing jobs after 35 and even more so after forty becomes increasingly problematic, even in the profession for which the applicant is trained. Changing professions involves extra difficulties as the person transferring from one specialised area to another.

Another reason put forward for university expansion is unlike the other arguments in that it views the economy as a whole. It is argued that education is an essential condition for economic growth. Expenditure in the education sector contributes to the improvement of quality in the field of labour and is an important condition for rising productivity.

There can of course be no doubt that a nation's standard of education is of key importance for economic growth. But it is nonsense to claim the number of years a person has studied is a reliable guide for calculating contribution to economic growth.

Experts confirm

Nevertheless a number of new works published in recent years say that this is the case. Educational economists try to calculate the profit of educational input down to fraction one per cent. Investment in what is human capital is scarcely viewed differently from capital investment in analysed along the lines of conventional investment theories.

It is forgotten in the process that wages and salaries provide no reliable yardstick for these calculations as the imperfections of the market, age and sex are completely ignored and the education factor assessed in a vacuum with no consideration being paid to the overall situation.

A society of graduates would not be an ideal world with high incomes, success in professional life, high social prestige, self-realisation for the individual and above-average growth rates for the economy.

All these tempting-sounding assets only add fuel to a one-sided theory of education and will only lead to the kind of a large number of university students ending in disappointment in the next twenty years.

(Deutsche Zeitung, 3 March 1972)

Finance worries face VDS



The left-wing VDS Students Union now represents more than 320,000 students organised in 76 local branches. Herr Krüger of the VDS executive recently told the 24th VDS congress in Bonn. Another thirteen branches, including those at the universities of Bremen and Saarbrücken and the Folkwang Academy of Essen have applied for their re-entry to the organisation. The VDS is approaching the stage where it will represent all student groups in West Germany.

Despite this growth the VDS is worried about its financial position, Krüger stated. A number of students, mainly members of the Christian Democrat Student Union or those supporting this organisation's

views, have gone to court to petition for an injunction against the VDS obtaining membership fees from the student committees of eleven universities.

The loss of finances per term amounted to at least 150,000 Marks. Delegates complained about the fact that the government has not yet decided to resume paying a grant to the VDS.

The composition of the delegation does not suggest a complete change of political course. The ideological dispute about the "right way" will be most obvious during discussions on a document outlining future activities in the field of education policy and general politics.

The VDS executive believes that the main battle should be directed against the university umbrella legislation, and the Federal states' decision not to employ political extremists in the public service.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 10 March 1972)

■ MEDICINE

Works doctors oppose the four-day working week

Works doctors oppose the idea of the four-day week which is commonly proposed and already in operation in a number of isolated cases. The working population fancy a long three-day weekend but doctors warn of the effects on health of a four-day week when the total number of hours worked is not reduced.

Dr Elisabeth Stollenz, the head of the Berlin Labour Medicine Academy, has put forward important reasons for this.

The four-day week became possible under existing regulations thanks to the variable working hours scheme under which workers themselves can decide what hours they are to work within certain limits.

In four days forty hours work can be done.

Dr Stollenz states that it is understandable that workers like an extra day's holiday over the weekend. But they must not be under any illusions. With a ten-hour working day and additional two hours spent travelling to and from work they will be away from home for an average of twelve hours.

But Dr Stollenz believes that twelve hours a day is far too long if performance is to remain as constant as employers would like. The working day would then begin and end during the hours of darkness. That means that the biological rhythm is disturbed.

The biological clock is roughly synchronised with the rotation of the Earth. During hours of darkness, irrespective of whether a person remains awake or not, a large number of bodily processes such as the kidneys, the stomach and intestinal tract and the functions of the circulation do not work at their normal high rate. During such a rest period the organ systems are not equal to the demands placed upon them by a twelve-hour working day.

In the long run the four-day week places excess demands on the entire organism. "Disorders would crop up in the central nervous system responsible for the functioning of the heart, stomach, intestines and liver," Dr Stollenz states. "At first the patient would only notice that something was wrong with his bodily functions but this could then lead to

Nervous disorders due to lack of minerals

A scientific team at the Biological and Physical Research Association's installation in Oberjesingen believes that disorders of the central nervous system are particularly widespread at the moment, due to anomalies in the body's mineral content.

Dr Theo Sommer, a physicist at Stuttgart Technical University, said in Cologne that the phosphate and magnesium content rises intercellularly within the red corpuscles.

"This shift in mineral content leads to a direct change in energy production and a number of disorders," Dr Sommer states.

Increased doses of potassium, copper and zinc usually only take a number of days to cure the symptoms which have not been given proper treatment in the past because of the lack of information surrounding them.

Dystonia of the central nervous system manifests itself through migraine, insomnia, vertigo, lassitude, restlessness and disorders in the heart and circulation. The team took over five thousand blood samples to reach its results.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 16 March 1972)

Illnesses that are much more difficult to treat."

Another example will be sufficient to explain the functioning of the biological clock and its susceptibility to disorders. Sleep before midnight is rightly thought of as the healthiest type of sleep. This is not only a popular adage but is connected with the fact that the inner rhythm of all organs slows down from about nine o'clock in the evening onwards. Bodily functions are gradually stepped up from about three o'clock in the morning.

Sleep after midnight can never be so deep and refreshing as before midnight even if the sleeper can stay in bed in the morning. As the biological clock is linked with the Earth's rotation and the position of the sun the best period for sleep — the hours before midnight — cannot be arbitrarily displaced as workers on night shift find.

Dr Stollenz fears that people will not be refreshed by their sleep after a ten-hour working day. When people are prevented from sleeping normally they suffer a deficit — as certain torture methods show. Their health can then be damaged and the nervous system as a whole can be affected. Dr Stollenz doubts whether the long weekend would be used to recover from the strains of the working week and catch up on the sleep missed. "We all know that long weekends are often misused for short trips to climatically unfavourable zones or for journeys on crowded roads and motorways," she comments. "And one must not ignore the possibility of a person taking a spare-time job that could easily degenerate into real work."

There would be no relaxation within the weekly cycle in circumstances such as these. Early retirement might then be necessary for medical reasons.

Workers and trade unions demand more free time. Dr Stollenz would like to see this implemented in a form compatible with the findings of labour medicine.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 18 March 1972)



Nuclear battery for heart pacemaker

A recently developed energy-generating system for West Germany's first 'atomic-powered' heart pacemaker is being tested at the Siemens Research and Development Centre, Erlangen. At the conclusion of tests with the laboratory model, which has been in continuous operation for more than 12,000 hours, the new pacemaker will be implanted for the first time. The device is powered by a thermo-electric isotope battery, whose energy source — enclosed within a radiation-proof capsule — is the plutonium-238 isotope. By the disintegration of this radioactive substance, energy is continuously released in the form of heat, which in turn is converted — with the help of thermocouples — into electric energy for powering the pacemaker. An 'atomic battery' such as this will function for at least ten years before the pacemaker has to be replaced. Development of the new system, extending over an approximately 3-year period, was sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Education and Science. (Photo: Siemens)

Minister gives tips for good health

Health Minister Käte Strobel recently said in Bad Godesberg that people who wanted to remain healthy should do daily though moderate physical training, be calm and composed in the face of the excessive demands placed on them by our technological society and be self-disciplined as far as luxuries were concerned. She was speaking about World Health Day to be held on 7 April with the slogan "Think of Your Heart — the Motor of Your Life."

Käte Strobel demanded more preventive medicine and increased measures towards the early recognition of diseases affecting the heart and circulation.

She also warned against the effects of alcohol and nicotine consumption. People smoking twenty cigarettes a day are three times more likely to have a heart attack than non-smokers.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 March 1972)

Essen Professor warns against noise-threat

Introverted and sensitive people found the noise disturbing after a few minutes but music of the same noise intensity was tolerated for an hour or more.

People tending to be extrovert tolerated both the music — which they enjoyed even after a number of hours — and the arbitrary noise which did not bother them at all.

Their pulse rate also declined after a time though only to a limited extent. Loud music always has a disturbing effect in the long run.

Measurements taken from guinea pigs as they slept were extremely interesting physiologically. Fifty-five decibels may not be very high during the day but it is at night. The pulse rate in the fingers changed even when the bursts of noise lasted only ten seconds.

The depth of sleep was greatly affected by a reading of seventy decibels. The circulation of blood to the extreme parts of the body also dropped. The heart beat and pulse decreased noticeably.

The pulse beats in the fingers decreased even when noise was low. Even bursts of noise lasting for a third of a second resulted in a drop in the peripheral circulation.

Otto Tappen

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 March 1972)

TOURISM

Individualists
holiday on the
Halligen isles

Handelsblatt
DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG
Industriekurier

Looking from the North Sea coastline towards the longest of the Halligen islands, Langeness seems like a series of little hills (Hallige) dotted with farms rather than a small island. There are the *Warften*, artificially created hills constructed to give protection to man and beast when storms blow up. But, according to the experts, the damage storms can do has diminished since the dangerous flooding of February 1962.

The islanders, anxious to increase their tourist trade, fear rumours among holidaymakers who believe that the Halligen islands are just mudflats or that only in July and August do the islands have weather that allows visitors to enjoy a holiday. People who are in the know are aware that in June and September these islands can be a sheer delight.

Those who know and love the Halligen islands are of the view that organised tourism to the islands should be forbidden. A few individualists and loners have already fled from the crush of cities to settle there.

In tourist terms when the Halligen islands are mentioned this means Hooe, the highest above sea level and the largest, Langeness, the longest, Gröde and Oland, the small island and Habb, the very smallest. Only a summer house stands on this island.

No secret is made of the fact that only five hundred people live in the total group of ten Halligen islands. The islanders have 620 beds available for holidaymakers. Fewer people live in these islands than live in many a block of apartments in the large cities.

The islanders are happy to report that many of the holidaymakers who visit the Halligen islands are regulars. The islanders wait for their visit as they would wait for the arrival of relations.

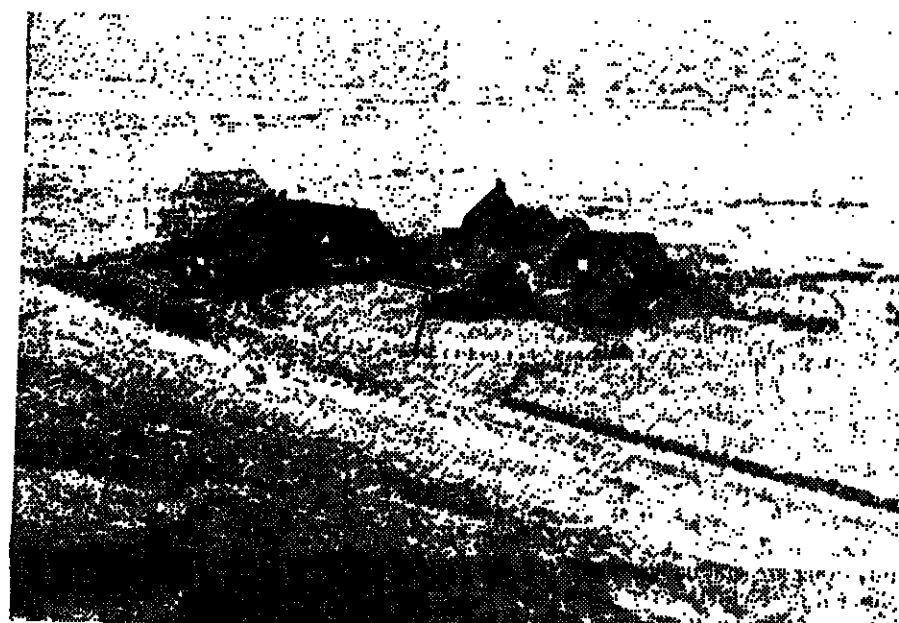
The most attractive aspect of the island is that a holidaymaker not only can but must make his own amusement. This does not mean that the holidaymaker can only take pleasure from the landscape set in a mighty ocean and the cosiness of a local family's home. There are plenty of opportunities for sport of all kinds — riding across the meadows on horseback or cycling along the country tracks. And swimming of course, but only when the tide is high. There are no dangerous breakers. The bathing beaches are clearly marked out. The weather is more reliable than it is on the mainland.

Children returning home from a holiday on Gröde or Oland will amaze their friends with tales of how life was like Robinson Crusoe's adventures.

Langeness and Oland are connected by a narrow embankment, but this can only be used by workers on the embankment. The Segellore, called Capt'n Magda, is a romantic monument to their labours. But the Halligen islands are not entirely cut off — motorboats ply between the islands and the mainland.

On the islands the 'Trinity' is much honoured — on Langeness this is the pastor, the schoolteacher and the mayor. Pastor Wilkens is a sociable, well read man who understands, completely the originality and propensity to tall stories of his flock.

Teacher Peter Barnsen has lived on the island for twenty years and has taken care



Langeness, the longest of the Halligen islands

(Photo: dpa, freigeig. v. Luftamt Hamburg Nr. 219259)

of the island's archives. He said: "No, no I don't want to move from here."

He is prone to making quotations endlessly but when he goes for a walk through the green meadows so peacefully set in the blue sea he quotes a line from Friedrich Hebbel: "... be at peace, enjoy nature."

Mayor Berthold Petersen, the third man in the island's hierarchy, is a born organiser. When you get to know him well you learn to appreciate his artistic talents. He has the most unusual hobby, and he says a hobby is essential on the island. He designs signposts for the island for the benefit of visitors. They are put up on Langeness and Oland.

The secluded islands offer a world of their own. Apart from the grocer's van and one private car on Hooe there is only Uwe Dutz's horse carriage which he uses to take holidaymakers a tour of the island during the season. He writes on his advertising board words to the effect that he gives no commentary but visitors have plenty of time to contemplate. However he knows the island like the back of his hand and astonishes visitors with his knowledge. No question put to him goes unanswered. He is a fount of knowledge about the island's history, fish, birds and the island's flora.

Uwe Dutz stands with the seals and seal pups and knows them intimately. This is confirmed if a visitor goes with him on a walk through the mudflats, which is a must. The animals know and like him obviously, they nudge closer full of curiosity, their round faces bobbing up out of the water.

A visitor need have no fear when he takes a walk with Uwe Dutz or his wife through the ooze after the sea has ebbed.

Tie, tie again

Men in this country have a problem: they do not know now to tie properly the broad ties that are currently fashionable, according to a survey conducted by the Krefeld Tie-Makers Institute.

The Institute intends to start in Düsseldorf a campaign to educate men in the difficult art. Pretty girls will show men in the city's high streets how to tie the tie.

One of the first who must take this lesson to heart is North Rhine-Westphalia Prime Minister Heinz Kühn. He was of the view that the knot was called the "Windsor Knot" and was too tight. He preferred something looser and more comfortable.

The Institute's campaign is not entirely unmotivated. The Institute believes that this Easter more ties will be sold than ever before.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 16 March 1972)

They know every rill and the water level differences between high tide and low. When the water rises they take a seat at the pub calling "another drink, then". In the pub there are no differences between locals and visitors. Guests drink *Pharisder* (coffee and rum) and play skat (a local card game).

Sometimes Hans Poth is there. He is a one man show. He beats his home-made cymbals with his feet whilst belting out a tune on an old squeeze box. His jobs on the island include landlady of a pub, postman, sexton and barber. It is not unusual for the islanders to do several jobs.

A holiday on the Halligen islands is not everyone's cup of tea. Thank goodness for that say the regulars from Hamburg, Berlin, Cologne, Frankfurt or Munich. Visitors take to a family and take part in the family's life. People are known by the family name such as the Holdtens, Bendixens, Brognussens or Paulsens.

For a holiday on the Halligen islands a visitor should go with oilskins and wellington boots, just as a mountaineer goes off with axe and rope. It is difficult to go from one meadow stretch to the next through the mudflats. Progress is very slow.

It is only one of the island's many 'tall stories' when Uwe Dutz tells the tale of the storm of 1362 in which 7,500 people were drowned.

The smaller islands do everything possible to improve their tourist traffic. On Hooe which has only 1,450 acres in all and only 180 inhabitants there are 350 beds available for visitors. Gröde has only 20 inhabitants but can accommodate 30 visitors. On Langeness there are 220 beds available for visitors and on Oland forty.

Family holidays are very popular. Cooking facilities are of course available, but few visitors could prepare place as do the housewives of the Halligen islands. Pubs and restaurants on the islands offer tasty dishes of prawn cocktail, mussels and black puddings.

Süderoog is an island that belongs to the Federal state of Schleswig-Holstein and has been reserved for youth activities. Ten young visitors can be accommodated there. When the tide is out one can accompany the post lady over the mudflats to the island of Pellworm, perhaps passing by the thousand-year-old ruins of a church. Organ concerts are given on the famous Arp-Schnittger Instrument in the Church of St. Salvator.

There is an interesting proposal to develop a nature reserve to include all the islands and the mudflats between them and the mainland. Herr Petersen of Pellworm said: "It is vital that the balance between nature and our civilisation should be maintained. The beauties of the Halligen islands must be preserved."

(Handelsblatt, 17 March 1972)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Grave decision

A six-year-old illegitimate girl has been given the right to tend "the right hand corner" of her father's grave by a local court in Offenburg.

This decision allowing the little girl, who is 6 years old, to tend the grave, is an end to a dispute between the girl and her six children and the little girl's mother.

The widow claimed that only she, her six children had the right to care the grave.

The cemetery attendant has been ordered by the court to "show the limits of the little girl's area by means of a stone some other sign".

The judge ruled that if there were further disputes the guilty party would run the risk of an unlimited fine or imprisonment up to six months.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 15 March 1972)

Sleep myth dashed

Sleep before midnight need not necessarily be as healthy and as deep as popular saying might have us believe. A medical journal *Selecta* interviewed a number of prominent doctors who had done research into sleep and found there are two types of persons — morning-sleepers and the evening-sleepers all depending on the daily biological rhythms.

The first hours of sleep are usually the most restful, irrespective of whether slumber begins before or after midnight. The most important thing is to be enough sleep. Though needs vary from individual to individual, everyone should sleep at least seven or eight hours.

Being out of step with the world in morning in nothing to do with sleep. No everybody's biological clock has its own rhythm. People who work with the brain need a long warming-up period it is only late in the day that they wake up. They are handicapped if they fall into a normal everyday routine.

(Welt am Sonntag, 12 March 1972)

Fag end

Cigarette advertising on television will be stopped by the end of 1972 according to a recent announcement made by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs.

The Ministry has taken this action in paragraph eight of the legislation dealing with limitations that can be applied to advertising.

One of the reasons for ending TV advertising was an application made by the Ministry of Health which claimed that it would be in the best interests of the public at large.

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 20 March 1972)

Room for play

Buildings of more than two apartments in Baden-Württemberg should include in the layout a playground for children according to an amendment made to building legislation.

The amendment has passed its third reading in the provincial assembly with considerable majority voting for.

In buildings already erected including more than three apartments occupiers demand that provision be made for children's playground.

The law comes into effect on 1 July. (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 March 1972)

SPORT

Manufacturers get in on the nationwide
keep fit campaign act

WELT AM SONNTAG

boasts facilities for all manner of leisure sports.

In artificial light and air conditioning the sons and daughters of the land of the rising sun keep in trim in underground burrows.

The sporting boom is enormous and, up to a point, dangerous. Slowly but surely the manufacturers of sports equipment are jumping on the bandwagon.

There are keep fit articles of all kinds and the industry is making sure that it does well out of a campaign launched by others at a cost of seventeen million Marks. Sports equipment manufacturers have not ploughed a penny of their own into the campaign.

The consumer is regrettably being surrounded by a commercial keep fit jungle. Advertisements tell him how many items he needs to buy to keep up with the rest.

A home fitness centre is the least a status seeker can spend his money on, if the advertisers' claims are anything to go by.

Training devices are assuming the same importance as status symbols as, say, colour TV. Millions of keep fit enthusiasts run the risk of becoming millions of keep fit consumers.

Not long ago Bonn Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher opened the Munich International Sports Equipment Fair with the impressive comment that the state is bound to accept sport as a leisure activity just as it is duty-bound to combat the ruination of Man's natural environment.

The largest exhibition of its kind in the world, the Munich fair gave manufacturers and traders (though not the general public, who were not admitted) a clear idea of the dimensions involved in the sports equipment industry.

On a fifteen-acre site 902 exhibitors from 27 countries displayed a staggering range of wares demonstrating the kind of sporting activities the man in the street can get up to in his spare time.

Oberbürgermeister Hans-Jochen Vogel of Munich rounded off the picture by noting that in his city alone 150 million Marks a year were spent on sports equipment. The same amount of money is spent on pharmaceutical products.

What is more, the Trimmy band-waggoners are on the point of launching a full-scale attack. Radio advertising will be aimed specifically at Riviera holiday-makers. Keep fit equipment will be advertised directly and indirectly on television.

Building contractors will be persuaded to set up keep fit centres on new estates. Keep fit rooms will be established in kindergartens and, to crown it all, there will be 250 woodland sports routes. The woods will no longer do the trick by simply being there. Commercialism has been so perfected that they are now supplied fitted out for sporting requirements.

Trimmy, one cannot but help feeling, is on the point of consuming his brainchildren. Keep in trim is becoming more and more of a slogan and a law to itself. There is no mistaking the trend. The idea is being followed by commercial exploitation.

Sport now calls for equipment. It is the

equipment that is beginning to count, not the fact of keeping fit.

Sixty-six per cent, or two in three of the people questioned in the course of an Emnid poll, felt that the sporting activity in which they currently engage is just about right — not too much and not too little.

Two people out of three thus feel they are getting enough exercise. It is far from an ideal figure. Sixty-six per cent are satisfied with themselves.

The conclusion can only be that pretty well everyone knows of Trimmy but that the idea of sport as a yardstick of individual condition has failed to make its mark.

People in this country are a nation of keep-in-trimmers. The Finns are athletes. They are happy with a bit of woodland to go for a run in; it does not need to be marked out like a pin-table.

Like all campaigns of this kind the keep fit campaign is not easy to fathom. It will take future statistics to reveal what is mere fashion and what has really been effective.

The only true yardstick is the number of people who die of heart attacks or obesity. Not until their number declines will Trimmy definitely have been a success.

(Welt am Sonntag, 19 March 1972)

Minister calls for
cut-rate tram fares
for Olympic visitors

Bavarian Interior Minister Bruno Merk is in favour of cut-rate public transport facilities for Olympic athletes and visitors to Munich during the Games.

Between 250,000 and 300,000 visitors from abroad are expected, 60,000 of whom will probably stay for the duration of the Games, Merk reckons.

Cut-rate fares would probably induce them to use public transport.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 March 1972)

21st International
Paraplegic Games
at Heidelberg

Exactly 25 days before President Heinemann opens the Munich Olympics in the traditional manner he will be inaugurating another sporting event of major importance, the twenty-first International Paraplegic Games, to be held from 1 to 10 August 1972 in Heidelberg.

The first Stoke Mandeville Games were held near London in 1948 on the initiative of Professor Ludwig Guttman. There were sixteen participants.

This year in Heidelberg some thousand competitors from more than forty countries will pit their prowess in archery, basketball, table tennis, field athletics, invalid chair racing and slalom, fencing, bowling, weight-lifting, snooker and swimming.

The 21st International Games in Heidelberg will cost roughly 1.5 million Marks, or roughly a tenth of one per cent of the expenditure that is being ploughed into the 20th Summer Olympics in Munich and Kiel.

Ellen Lauterbach, Social Democratic Bundestag member for Heidelberg, deserves much of the credit for ensuring that the Federal government footed two thirds of the bill and that President Heinemann agreed to be the Games' patron.

Ellen Lauterbach is a member of the organising committee for the Games and was also instrumental in rallying support for the issue of a commemorative postage stamp to mark the holding of the 21st Stoke Mandeville Games in this country.

The importance the Federal government attaches to the Games and to sport for the disabled in general can be judged from the reply to a parliamentary question tabled by the coalition parties.

ber of quarters. Forty Bundeswehr and US Army coaches will help competitors to commute between the sports facilities and their places of residence.

The Games are being held at the University sports ground and on the premises of the newly-opened Federal training centre in Heidelberg. Social events, folklore, theatrical evenings and outings will complement the sporting events.

The competitors will be almost exclusively paralysed from the waist down. Stoke Mandeville was opened by Professor Guttman as a British national centre for sufferers from spinal paralysis in 1944.

Dr Guttman was well aware of the enormous therapeutic significance of sport and developed it into an established part of treatment for his patients.

A tragic and serious example of the way in which disability must be overcome is provided by the former Olympic long-distance runner Abebe Bikila of Ethiopia. At the 1960 Rome Olympics Bikila won the marathon gold medal.

Four years later he achieved the unique feat — since 1896, at least — of again coming home first in the marathon, this time in Tokyo. Then he was crippled in a car accident and will have to spend the rest of his life in a wheelchair.

Willi Daume, chairman of the Olympic organising committee, invited him to attend the Munich Olympics as a spectator. Three weeks beforehand he will doubtless be the best-known competitor at the 21st Stoke Mandeville Games in Heidelberg.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 March 1972)